




BirdLife
SOUTH AFRICA
Giving Conservation Wings

Annual Report
2013

CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

A YEAR IN THE LIFE OF A CONSERVATION ORGANISATION SHOULD NEVER BE LOOKED AT IN ISOLATION. MUCH LIKE GAZING UPON THE QUIET SHAPE OF A BIRD ON A HIGH BRANCH, CONTEXT IS IMPORTANT FOR A DEEPER APPRECIATION (AND ENJOYMENT!) OF THE BIGGER PICTURE.

Every day we all face the pressures of life: political uncertainty, financial stresses and strains, the significant responsibilities thrust on us by a fast, busy and often ruthless world. BirdLife South Africa finds itself deeply rooted within this cultural condition, our intimate (and complex) relationships ranging from those with the individual to those with corporate, big business and government. We are therefore directly exposed to the "real world". We are far from any ivory tower; far from any protection, guarantees, or security; we are indeed "in the middle of it all"!



Knowing this – our clear place on that high and very exposed branch, the challenges and threats all about, the screams, the competition – knowing this, makes our huge success all the more astounding: we are not merely surviving, we are flourishing; ours is a position of the loudest songster, the brightest of the plumed, the healthiest of all the winged. While others seem to be falling to the ground we are soaring.

BirdLife South Africa – an organization of passionate volunteers and dedicated staff – appreciates its position, one of great responsibility, one that has the future of wild birds and their threatened habitats at its core; a cause that is our *raison d'être*. We will not fail; it simply is not an option.

As we continue with our work, as we consider where we are this year, we recognize very sincerely, that indeed, we have much to be thankful for. In particular the commitment from our friends, our partners, those who sit with us high up there for all to see. And it is my singular honour to thank them all here. If I were a bird I would surely sing.

Vernon R.L. Head
Chairman

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

THE PAST YEAR HAS BEEN ANOTHER GOOD YEAR FOR BIRDLIFE SOUTH AFRICA, WITH A NUMBER OF SIGNIFICANT SUCCESSES.

BirdLife South Africa is now in a good financial position and slowly moving towards a position of financial sustainability. There are many reasons for this success, including excellent financial management and income from a number of sources. During 2013 there were 31 Golden Bird Patrons and 39 Corporate Members, up from 29 and 33 respectively during the previous year.



As a means of ensuring the long-term sustainability of the organisation, the BirdLife National Trust has been established. The Trustees, with David Lawrence as Chairman, met twice in 2013. Almost R1.3 million was recently transferred to the Trust's bank account, a large portion of which were annual contributions from the Hans Hoheisen Charitable Trust. A painting by Sir Peter Scott, which was donated to BirdLife South Africa by Mark and Christine Read, saw R280 000 being raised for the Trust. Donations are being encouraged, including through BirdLife South Africa's Legacy Programme.

BirdLife South Africa hosted a number of very successful events during 2013. These included Flock at Sea which was attended by more than 1100 birdwatchers. Other successful events were the Save our Seabirds Festival and Sasol Bird Fair. Three events were held in Johannesburg, Durban and Franschhoek in November to honour our Golden Bird Patrons. BirdLife South Africa continues to promote its brand and create awareness about its work. The "hour glass" adverts, which were developed by The Jupiter Drawing Room (Utopia) continue to be used on billboards at airports, in magazines and, very importantly, e.tv aired (*pro bono*) animated adverts on television during 2013. Continental Outdoor Media has given us *pro bono* adverts on billboards across South Africa, including the "hour glass" adverts at airports and new high resolution e-boards in Johannesburg, an African Fish-eagle flight sequence at the Gautrain station in Sandton, and *African Birdlife* adverts at airports and shopping centres. The BirdLife South Africa Marketing Committee coordinates the organisation's marketing and awareness work.

The Community Bird Guide Training Programme remains one of BirdLife South Africa's flagship projects and, with funding from Sasol, we provided assistance and support to guides, including through the provision of business cards, the servicing of binoculars, and delivering skills training courses. BirdLife South Africa's avitourism work has created jobs and contributed to the country's economy. Some of the bird guides, such as Bonginkosi Ndaba, have initiated their own projects. With funding from N3TC, he runs the successful Nakakela environmental education programme



Martin Taylor

at Van Reenen in the Free State. Our new Avianator environmental education programme was successfully piloted at eight schools in the Free State, and our intention is for this bird- and habitat-focused programme to raise awareness about birds across the country.

Our organisation continues to grow its portfolio of conservation projects. For terrestrial birds this has included the recruitment of Species Guardians and Species Champions under BirdLife International's Preventing Extinctions Programme. The species research and conservation work has included satellite tracking of five Secretarybirds. This project is not only generating important information about the species, but also creating extensive awareness about Secretarybirds, bird conservation, and BirdLife South Africa. Research on White-winged Flufftails has involved a trip to Ethiopia to collect blood and feather samples for genetic and isotope analyses for a comparison of the South African and Ethiopian populations. In 2013 the White-winged Flufftail was uplisted to globally Critically Endangered following a motivation from BirdLife South Africa. This is the second South African bird to be globally listed at this highest level of extinction risk (the other being the Tristan Albatross).

The BirdLife South Africa/Endangered Wildlife Trust "Best Practice Guidelines for Avian Monitoring and Impact Mitigation at Proposed Wind Energy Development Sites in Southern Africa" have been formally endorsed by the South African branch of the International Association for Impact Assessment, Eskom and the South African Wind Energy Association. Although the Department of Environmental Affairs has not formally endorsed the guidelines, there have been significant positive changes in the Department's Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) requirements, as a result of our recommendations. BirdLife South Africa has also been recognised as a key stakeholder

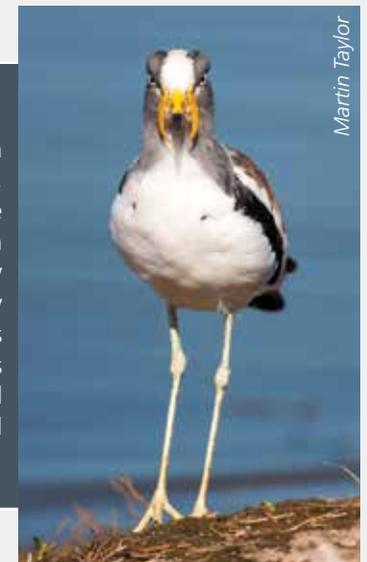
in issues relating to birds and renewable energy. We also serve on the Expert Reference Group for the National Strategic Environmental Assessments for wind and solar energy in South Africa.

The success achieved by the Albatross Task Force (ATF), which has seen a 90% reduction in albatross mortalities in the long-line and trawl fisheries, has been written up as a scientific manuscript and submitted to an international scientific journal. We recently heard that R15 million will be received over five years from the Global Environment Fund for the expansion of the ATF work into the high seas, specifically working with the Asian fisheries. Our initiative to establish a new mainland colony of African Penguins was boosted with a R1 million donation from Neville and Pamela Isdell.

The Important Bird & Biodiversity Areas (IBA) Programme continues to go from strength to strength. In the past two and a half years we have worked towards protecting 84 500 ha of priority grasslands in Mpumalanga, Free State and KwaZulu-Natal as Protected Environments through Biodiversity Stewardship. If all goes according to plan, these will be proclaimed in 2014. With R3 million funding from the WWF Nedbank Green Trust, we will be starting a new Biodiversity Stewardship programme in the Western Cape, where we plan to secure 16 000 ha of the Verlorenvlei IBA (a priority estuarine-lake and marsh system on the west coast) under Biodiversity Stewardship. With huge effort and using rigorous scientific methods, the BirdLife South Africa regional conservation managers have assessed 50% of the IBA network. These assessments will be used to compile the first Important Bird and Biodiversity Areas Status Report.

Risks

As a prominent conservation Nonprofit Organisation dependent on funding from corporates and the public, BirdLife South Africa is committed to good corporate governance and a sustainable business plan. A thorough risk assessment is performed on an annual basis to identify potential risks to the organisation. Plans to address any key risks identified are incorporated into managerial strategies and decision-making for the coming year. The effectiveness of BirdLife South Africa's risk assessment process is reflected in continued favourable annual audit reports, financial sustainability and successful conservation projects.



Martin Taylor

Looking ahead

BirdLife South Africa looks forward to the coming year, and especially to making important contributions to the conservation of our country's birds and their habitats. Our efforts will be focussed on addressing the threats which affect threatened birds and our Important Bird & Biodiversity Areas. We will extend our work in the grasslands, start a stewardship project at Verlorenvlei, and with funding from the Global Environment Fund expand the Albatross Task Force's work into the high seas.

With support from the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, we will employ a Partner Development Officer who will be responsible for offering support to other BirdLife Partners in the region and growing the network in countries without bird conservation organisations.

Our work is funding dependent, so much time will be spent drafting funding applications. We will continue to promote the BirdLife National Trust, especially through the Legacy Programme. With generous funding from Neville and Pamela Isdell and other donors, we will be purchasing a new office. The new office, to be called Isdell House, will have more space, an indigenous garden and green technologies, and be located in a convenient and safe environment.

BirdLife South Africa's Council has appointed a Restructuring Committee to investigate the details and implications of a proposed change in structure and governance of the organisation, and this work will be completed in 2014.

Working with the Gordon Institute of Business Science, and coordinated by a team at BirdLife South Africa's head office, we are exploring ways to change the demographics of our membership and support base. With funding from Sasol, we will continue to provide support to the country's community bird guides.

Our Action Plan, which is closely aligned with BirdLife International's 2020 Strategy, will guide our work during the coming year, and ensure that we have targets against which to measure our progress.

A few important documents are currently being drafted and will be completed in early-2014. These include The Eskom Red Data Book of Birds of South Africa, Lesotho and Swaziland, State of the Nation's Bird Report and IBA Status Report.



Albert Froneman

“ Our efforts will be focussed on addressing the threats which affect threatened birds and our Important Bird & Biodiversity Areas. ”

MARK D. ANDERSON, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Three BirdLife South Africa staff attended the BirdLife International World Congress in Ottawa, Canada, in June, at which they presented several talks, including “Keep growing in difficult times”, “Business and biodiversity – working together” and “The right renewables – wind power, bioenergy and biodiversity”. At the Congress, BirdLife South Africa received a BirdLife Partner Award and the Charl van der Merwe Trust received a prestigious BirdLife Conservation Achievement Award.

We have assisted with bird conservation work in the southern African region. This includes the Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund-funded establishment of a bird conservation NGO in Mozambique, provision of funding and other support for Michael Mills' work in Angola, and opposition to a wind farm development in Lesotho.

We continue to support bird monitoring initiatives in South Africa, and especially SABAP2. During 2013 this has included promotion of the project in *African Birdlife* and in radio interviews, sponsorship of atlasings “expeditions” to unatlased areas, and presentations of atlasings workshops to bird clubs.

The seventh issue of *African Birdlife*, BirdLife South Africa's magazine, was produced at the end of 2013. This issue of the magazine was increased in length to 80 pages, and an improved binding type was used. With an increase in members/subscribers, good retail sales, and committed advertisers, the magazine is currently in a healthy position.

BirdLife South Africa's successes during 2013 are due to a massive team effort, and I am grateful to the many people and organisations who are contributing towards our important conservation work.

Mark D. Anderson
Chief Executive Officer

BirdLife South Africa awards



BirdLife South Africa's presented Owl Awards to people and organisations who have made significant contributions to bird conservation and to BirdLife South Africa. The prestigious event was held at Misty Hills Country Hotel in Johannesburg.

Gill Memorial Medal Award 2013

Robert James Minchin Crawford

Owl Awards 2013

Eagle-Owl Award: Eve Gracie

Owl Awards: Robbie Aspeling • Helen Biram • Department of Environmental Affairs – Biodiversity & Conservation (Wilma Lutsch and Humbulani Mafumo) • Hans Hoheisen Charitable Trust • Trevor Hardaker • Monika O'Leary • Adam Riley • Karin Van De Venter • Van De Venter Majapelo (VVM) • Roger Wanless

Owlet Award: Tommy Buckham

Staff

The growing success and profile of BirdLife South Africa attracts highly skilled and professional people to work for the organisation. This enables us to deliver important conservation work of the highest standards. BirdLife South Africa's staff include three PhDs and a Chartered Accountant. Most senior staff members hold MSc or other masters' degrees. Collectively, the organisation's employees have over one hundred years' experience in the science and conservation fields. In total they have produced more than a hundred published scientific works, including peer-reviewed papers and chapters in text books.



BirdLife South Africa has a team of hardworking and dedicated staff who are making important contributions to the organisation's goals and objectives. A very successful staff meeting was held at Stonehaven on Vaal in November.



"BirdLife South Africa's annual staff meeting was structured to allow for interaction between the staff, and there was therefore extensive discussion and debate about topical conservation issues.

CONSERVING TERRESTRIAL BIRDS



Miona Janeke

THE TERRESTRIAL BIRD CONSERVATION TEAM HAS FOCUSED ITS EFFORTS OVER THE PAST YEAR ON UNRAVELLING THE MYSTERIES OF SOME OF SOUTH AFRICA'S MOST THREATENED BIRDS.

BirdLife South Africa has focused research efforts on: White-winged Flufftail, Secretarybird, Southern Bald Ibis and White-bellied Korhaan. We support three Species Guardians, the SA Taita Falcon Survey Team, the Percy FitzPatrick Institute for African Ornithology Black Harrier Research Project and the Mabula Ground Hornbill project. We are learning enormously from the tracking of Secretarybirds, Southern Bald Ibises and Black Harriers. Species-specific brochures, posters and fundraising events have enabled us to raise awareness about these threatened species.

Saving the world's rarest flufftail

The White-winged Flufftail is, to our knowledge, restricted to the high altitude wetlands of Ethiopia and eastern South Africa. BirdLife South Africa and the Middelpunt Wetland Trust have initiated a number of projects during 2013 to determine the conservation action required to save this species, with the work largely being sponsored by Eskom, the BirdLife International Species Champion.



Warwick Tarbotton

During August 2013, a research team of scientists and conservationists visited Ethiopia to collect blood and feather samples from seven individuals in the Berga wetland. The aim of the research is to determine the possible migratory connection between the Ethiopian and South African populations through genetic and isotope analyses. To further our understanding of the habitat requirements of this flufftail, surveys of suitable habitat are currently being undertaken by Greg Davies.

The current estimate of the global population of White-winged Flufftail is less than 250 birds, with only about 50 birds left in South Africa, making this species the world's rarest flufftail. During 2013, this species was uplisted by the IUCN to globally Critically Endangered, one level from extinction in the wild. There is much work to do in order to prevent this flufftail falling off the extinction precipice.



Miona Janeke



Miona Janeke

The White-winged Flufftail research team which undertook field work in Ethiopia involved people from BirdLife South Africa, the Middelpunt Wetland Trust, and collaborators from the Ethiopian Wildlife and Natural History Society, Ethiopian Wildlife Conservation Authority, the Berga Site Support Group, University of Witwatersrand and Johannesburg Zoo.



Hanneline Smit-Robinson

New signboards, printed and installed by Atmei Construction, at the Abel Erasmus Pass, Blyde River Canyon and Swadini Forever Resorts in South Africa help to raise awareness about the Taita Falcon, which will be uplisted to regionally Critically Endangered in 2014.

Taita Falcon: South Africa's rarest breeding bird?

The SA Taita Falcon Survey Team, the Species Guardian for the Taita Falcon in South Africa, completed the seventh annual breeding season survey of this species in the Drakensberg Mountains of Mpumalanga/Limpopo in December 2013, enabled by the sponsorship of Palabora Copper, the Species Champion. The results of the 2013 survey suggest that the number of occupied and active territories in the South African population may be steadily declining. Given the lack

Falcon *Falco fasciinucha*
 rarest breeding bird in South Africa
 status: Critically Endangered in South Africa

Identification:
 Small, kestrel-sized bird of prey, with a chunky build, with long pointed wings and short tail on a small body. In flight rufous below, fading underwings, and white tail. Above slate grey, or on rump, with distinctive patches of rufous on hindneck, crown and back with distinct dark 'side burn' marking the whitish cheeks and throat. Facial skin bright orange-brown. Proches locomotionally on its feet, very fast in flight.

Voice:
 Screeching "tseee-tseee" constant call. Loud "tuh-tuh-tuh-tuh" alarm call.

Habitat:
 Cliffs and gorges when breeding, but uses surrounding areas when hunting and in the non-breeding season.

Food:
 Small birds (mostly 20 - 120g body mass) - mainly quail, francolin, swallows and swifts but also size of doves.

Breeding Season:
 August to December. Nest: scrape in soil in holes or ledges on cliffs.

We continue to search for potential breeding sites of Taita Falcons, for any other birds or areas that might overlap with them, and find out exactly where they are hunting and for what prey. This information will help us conserve the species better. If you are aware of any more information contact the BirdLife South Africa Conservation Manager at 011 798 7422 or email conservation@birdlife.org.za

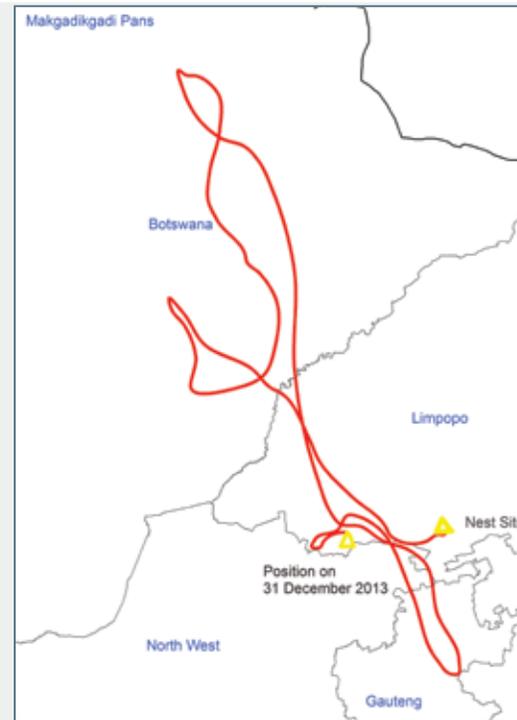


Tracking Secretarybirds

The aim of BirdLife South Africa's study on Secretarybirds is to determine the preferred habitat of this species and dispersal patterns of juveniles, as well as to identify the threats responsible for the apparently high mortality rates.

Secretarybirds are listed as Vulnerable on the IUCN Red List and have shown a recent global decline in numbers across their range. During 2013, the BirdLife South Africa team fitted five Ecotone GPS/GSM tracking devices to juvenile Secretarybirds. We have extensive data for two birds, BLiNG and Taemane:

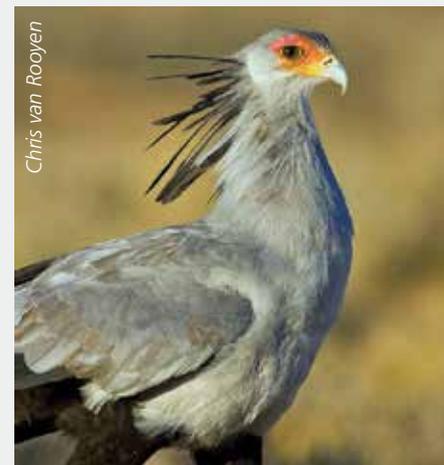
- BLiNG moved all the way from Sondela near Bela Bela, Limpopo, to the Makgadikgadi pans in Botswana, a distance of about 470 km. After a stay of seven months in Botswana it returned to its natal area. BLiNG then moved south to Delmas before moving north again to Thabazimbi. We received 4 316 data points for BLiNG during 2013, and for the first time ever we have tracked the first year of a Secretarybird's life.
- Taemane moved from its nest near Warden in the Free State to the KwaZulu-Natal coast, thereafter settling near Ixopo. It then moved to an area not too far from its nest site. We received an incredible 6 579 data points for Taemane during 2013.



This project is supported by two Species Champions, namely Airports Company South Africa, Petra Diamond Mines, and donations from bird clubs and birdwatchers.



of recent and reliable information on the distribution and abundance of this species, the Taita Falcon Survey Team decided to survey previously known or suspected strongholds in southern Africa to determine the current status of the Taita Falcon at these key sites. We began this work at Batoka Gorge, Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe, which we visited during July 2013. No Taita Falcons were recorded during 10 days of intense surveying of the gorge. We hope to repeat the survey in 2014 to confirm these preliminary findings.



Chris van Rooyen

“ Secretarybirds are listed as Vulnerable on the IUCN Red List and have shown a recent global decline in numbers across their range. ”



Chris van Rooyen

Tracking Black Harriers

BirdLife South Africa, through the assistance of Inkwazi and Witwatersrand bird clubs and individual donors, financially supports the Black Harrier tracking project led by Dr Rob Simmons and his team at the Percy FitzPatrick Institute for African Ornithology. They are the registered BirdLife South Africa Species Guardian for this endemic raptor. Six Endangered Black Harriers are currently monitored through satellite tracking, which includes three new birds which were GPS-tagged during 2013 in the Van Rhynsdorp/Calvinia/Nieuwoudtville areas. Two of the newly tagged birds moved rapidly east in December, 700 km across the Karoo to the Winterberg in the Eastern Cape. Interesting behaviour has been revealed by one female named Karma who has left this year's mate (Madiba) to summer in the Overberg, before the youngsters were independent! Madiba has since flown even more rapidly across the Karoo to Lesotho, covering 930 km in 3 days. Only two of the six birds have remained in their breeding areas, but movements are expected shortly to wetter, cooler climates.



F. Mougéot

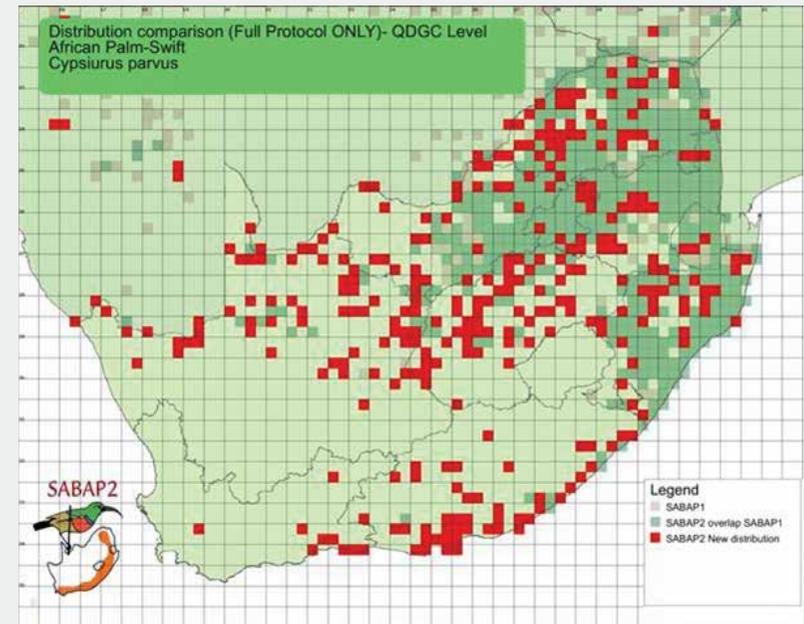
Rob Simmons releasing Karma, a satellite-tagged Black Harrier, in the West Coast National Park. This bird has, in just over a year, travelled well over 1 000 km from the Overberg to Nieuwoudtville and back.



Wally Tollemache

Southern African Bird Atlas Project 2

The Southern African Bird Atlas Project (SABAP) is the most important bird monitoring project in southern Africa and has amassed one of the largest biological datasets in the world. This project, a partnership between BirdLife South Africa, the Animal Demography Unit and the South African National Biodiversity Institute, reached a significant milestone in 2013 with the submission of the 5 millionth record! Atlas cards have been submitted by 1 346 registered observers. Data are collected following a specific protocol and vetted prior to acceptance. SABAP data are important in scientific research and conservation decision-making, and several scientific articles using this data source have been published. These allude to the shifts in arrival and departure times of migratory birds, and range expansions and contractions in specific species. The data collected by dedicated citizen scientists are guiding our organisation's important conservation work.



The expansion in the distribution of the African Palm Swift as determined through a comparison of data from the first and second (2007 until present) Southern African Bird Atlas Projects.

ENCOURAGING ECOLOGICAL SUSTAINABILITY

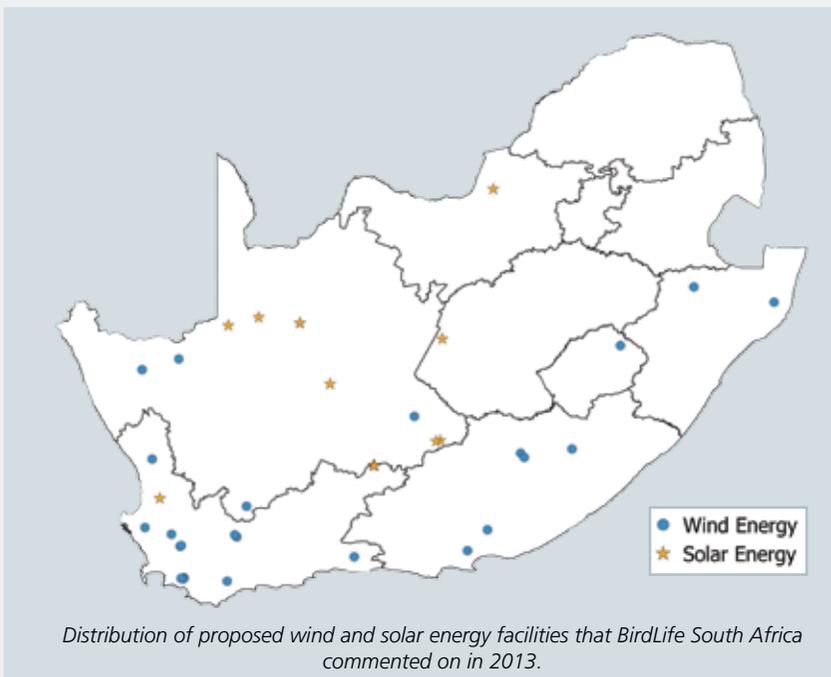
Minimising the impact of renewable energy on birds

Whilst BirdLife South Africa recognises the importance of renewable energy, we also recognise the potential for it to have negative impacts on birds and their habitats. We therefore continue to work with government, environmental consultants, bird specialists and wind farm developers to find environmentally sustainable solutions.

This year saw increasing compliance with the BirdLife South Africa/ Endangered Wildlife Trust Best Practice Guidelines for Avian Monitoring and Impact Mitigation at Proposed Wind Energy Development Sites in Southern Africa. The International Association for Impact Assessment South Africa (IAIASa) has now formally endorsed the guidelines, joining Eskom, CapeNature and the South African Wind Energy Association.

Drawing on our network of local and international partners, BirdLife South Africa hosted a two day workshop on Birds and Wind Energy where lessons learned were shared and the path forward discussed. Participants included local and international specialists, government officials, wind farm developers and NGOs.

BirdLife South Africa's position as one of the primary points of reference on issues relating to birds and renewable energy in South Africa, both at strategic and project level, has been cemented, paving the way for greener, clean energy in South Africa.



Distribution of proposed wind and solar energy facilities that BirdLife South Africa commented on in 2013.

Ingula

The Ingula Pumped Storage Scheme, 8 300 ha of land consisting of extensive wetland systems and grassland, is situated approximately 25 km northeast of Van Reenen, on the boundary of the Free State and KwaZulu-Natal. Following a condition of the Record of Decision more than 10 years ago, the Ingula Partnership was initiated as a partnership between BirdLife South Africa, Eskom and Middelpunt Wetland Trust to conserve this important site. The joint vision of the Ingula Partnership is to encourage ecological sustainability and to manage the site for the benefit of the environment and the surrounding communities. The partnership will be celebrating ten years of ecological research, monitoring and environmental management in 2014. The Ingula site will also be proclaimed as a Private Nature Reserve during 2014.

During the past year, BirdLife South Africa undertook several avifaunal studies, including two PhD projects which are nearing completion. These studies were on the Management of High Altitude Grasslands using Ingula as a case study and the conservation of the Southern Bald Ibis. Avifaunal monitoring will continue at Ingula after construction has been completed.

Monitoring work at a key estuary on the east coast of South Africa

The Umhlathuze Estuary is of significant conservation importance, not only to resident bird communities including several Red List species that inhabit the site, but also to non-breeding Palearctic migrants. Not surprisingly, this system was ranked as the third most important estuary system in South Africa for migratory waders. Several threats, including proposed mining developments to the south, as well as a lack of knowledge of the existing avifaunal communities and anecdotal evidence of major declines in waterbird numbers in the immediately adjacent Richards Bay harbour, underlined the need to undertake an avifaunal assessment of this estuary, colloquially known as the Southern Sanctuary. During a five day field trip, BirdLife South Africa, with the assistance of the Durban Natural Science Museum, completed a baseline survey, recording in excess of 27 000 birds representing 52 species. In addition, we started a process of engaging with the relevant stakeholders regarding the threats facing the site. In 2014, BirdLife South Africa will be repeating the initial surveys and will continue engaging with local stakeholders and conservation authorities to ensure that the conservation needs of this extremely important wetland are taken into account during future developments in the area.

SAVING SEABIRDS



Ross Wanless

Albatross Task Force

With over half of all pelagic seabird populations decreasing, particularly within the albatross family (17 of 22 species threatened), the Albatross Task Force has its work cut out. The overriding threat to these graceful ocean wanderers is the accidental, yet deadly, interaction with longline and trawl fisheries that overlap with their most important foraging grounds.

In 2005, the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB) and BirdLife International established the Albatross Task Force (ATF) as the world's first international team of mitigation instructors working directly with fishermen to demonstrate best practice measures to reduce seabird bycatch. The ATF filled a critical gap that existed in translating knowledge and regulations on seabird bycatch mitigation to direct action onboard vessels. This approach continues to be successful, with 2013 being another excellent year for the South African ATF team.

BirdLife South Africa's first and only intern under a national youth skills development (Groen Sebenza) programme joined the ATF in 2013. The intern will be with the team for two and half years and will work with the deep-sea trawl fishery to ensure that each vessel

type adopts a Bird Mitigation Plan (or BMP) – a document assessing how a vessel can mitigate against seabird bycatch, in which the fishermen are involved in the whole process from start to finish. The ATF took on this project in 2012 and will ensure its continued presence onboard local trawl vessels.

One of the challenges that the team continually faces is ensuring that any systems that we develop to reduce seabird mortalities in fisheries are simple, effective and cheap – otherwise fishermen will not use them. Not only does the Hook Pod meet those criteria, it has the potential to eliminate completely seabird bycatch in tuna longline fishing, rendering all other mitigation measures unnecessary. It works by ensuring the tip and barb of hooks are covered during



setting operations. Nothing (not even sharks and sea turtles) can get caught until the pressure-activated pod opens and the baited hooks are released at a depth beyond seabirds' diving capabilities. Refinements to the device were made following successful at-sea trials in Brazil and Uruguay this year. The South African ATF team will be putting hook pods to the test onboard a local commercial tuna longline vessel in early 2014 – so watch this space for more exciting results as testing continues!

Recognition of the team's success was evident with their leader Bronwyn Maree receiving the Future for Nature Award 2014. The Future for Nature Award encourages individuals to become conservation leaders and opens doors to an international network of dedicated conservationists who are able to provide

“ Recognition of the team's success was evident with their leader Bronwyn Maree receiving the Future for Nature Award 2014. ”

learning support, mentoring and financial assistance. This prestigious international award highlights individuals who can be seen as role models who can pass on their passion and love of nature conservation to other young people, while stimulating the individual to continue their outstanding efforts in protecting endangered species. The prize money will be used to test Hook Pods. This award will go a long way towards ensuring that the world will never be without albatrosses!

Fruits of the ATF teams' collective efforts over the past 9 years are finally being seen on a bigger scale with evidence of increases in population sizes of some species of albatross. Black-browed Albatrosses breeding in Chile have increased by up to 58% in some locations. In addition, recent surveys on the Falklands Islands (where over two thirds of the population breeds) also indicate a healthy increase in the numbers of this species. The Black-browed Albatross is a common visitor to South African waters and is one of the most commonly caught species of albatross within our local fisheries. Until recently they were classified as Endangered, but late in 2013 they were down-listed to Near Threatened (dropping by two categories) as it is no longer considered to be undergoing rapid population declines! These results, showing significant changes to the conservation status of a species, encourages the ATF to continue efforts to implement best practise measures in fisheries in order to reduce the impacts on seabirds.



Ross Wanless

High Seas

The 'Tragedy of the Commons' was first advanced as a concept by the economist Grant Hardin. It describes how short-term, selfish interests, which trump long-term, communal interests when exploiting a common resource, lead to overexploitation. The high seas and Antarctica are the last global commons that contain exploitable mineral and biological resources. The rules that govern activities (particularly extractive ones such as mining) are very strong in Antarctica. The same is not true of the oceans. There are rules, mostly housed within 'Regional Fisheries Management Organisations', such as the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC). But enforcement of the rules is exceedingly difficult to achieve. The battle to overcome alarmingly high mortality to albatrosses and petrels in high seas fisheries, primarily tuna longlining, forms a major component of the Global Seabird Programme of BirdLife International.

The approach to IOTC and similar bodies has built off the work and scientific achievements of the ATF. First the ATF teams have demonstrated, through scientifically rigorous experiments onboard commercial fishing vessels during production fishing, that seabirds can be protected from the fishing hooks, safely and cost-effectively. We then translate that into new rules at these international commissions. In theory, once the rules have been agreed upon, everyone will follow them or face the consequences. However, detecting non-compliance is almost impossible, but pales to insignificance when compared with the task of getting sanctions against fishing nations which don't follow the rules. Our approach to this is to work with fishing vessels and responsible nations, to convince fishermen that there is a better way, and not to make the rules and then look for a stick to beat nations into compliance.

To this end, and in recognition of the extraordinary success that the BirdLife International Partnership has achieved, we have been awarded a R15 million grant over 5 years to conduct workshops and demonstrations of best practice for seabird-safe fishing options with high seas fishing nations. The project is a small sub-component of a much larger grant from the Global Environmental Fund to improve management of high seas resources. It will be run by BirdLife South Africa, and will focus on Japanese, Taiwanese, Korean and Indonesian high seas fleets operating in the Indian and Atlantic Oceans. At least three new staff will be employed, which will add considerable capacity to the team and help us sustain the amazing achievements of the past few years.



Dr Zang Geun Kim of Korea accepts an albatross pin badge from Dr Ross Wanless during an international meeting of the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission. Korea is working closely with BirdLife to make fishing practices on their tuna longliners safer for seabirds.

Taking stock for African Penguins

In 2009 the Charl van der Merwe Trust became the African Penguin Species Champion, committing R1.5 million over three years to help us develop new projects and support existing work, looking at possible competition between penguins, and the sardine and anchovy fisheries. In 2013, in addition to tracking birds after breeding, devices were put on birds after their moult; another first for this species.

In 2012 the Trust provided increased support for another three years, allowing a project on the satellite tracking of African Penguins outside of their breeding season. The plan is to investigate where the birds go during these two periods, and to see if their food stocks are adequate, if those stocks are fished, or if we need to work with government and industry to figure out a workable solution that provides for penguin (and other seabirds') needs without causing significant economic costs to the fishery. By the end of 2014 we should have a good idea of what is needed to prevent further losses in the African Penguin population. Of course, we may find that fishing has little or no direct impact, or that there simply aren't acceptable solutions to potential conflict. With this in mind, the Seabird Division started planning an ambitious project – to establish a new, mainland African Penguin colony somewhere on our South Coast, where fishing pressure is low but fish stocks are reliably high. Enter our penguin patron, Pamela Isdell. She has a strong affinity for this species, and when she heard about our work and the penguin's plight, she felt she had to come to the party.

The penguin tracking work formed the core of the Seabird Division's annual Save our Seabirds Festival theme. A publicity campaign was developed around this by our creative team at Utopia. The work inspired Zest for Birds, which runs pelagic bird tours, to raise R26 000 for the species. But the biggest fish has yet to be landed – we've partnered with GreenMatter to develop an educational and fundraising game based on our satellite tracking work. The aim is to raise R500 000 in 2014.

“ Pamela Isdell donated R1 million to the African Penguin new colony project. ”



MSc student Jenni Roberts prepares to attach a satellite transmitter (being held by Alistair McQuaid) to an African Penguin at Dassen Island.

PROTECTING SITES AND HABITATS

SINCE ITS REBIRTH IN 2010, THE IMPORTANT BIRD AND BIODIVERSITY AREAS (IBA) PROGRAMME CONTINUES TO BUILD ON ITS STRONG FOUNDATION AND SUCCESSES.

The IBA Programme and associated regional work saw the completion in 2013 of extensive monitoring of IBAs, but more importantly saw the commencement of the implementation of conservation action at priority sites.

IBAs are sites of global significance for bird conservation, identified nationally through multi-stakeholder processes using globally standardised, quantitative and scientifically agreed criteria for populations of threatened, restricted-range, biome-restricted or congregatory species, referred to as IBA trigger species. By definition, an IBA is an internationally agreed priority for conservation action. Over 12 000 IBAs have been identified worldwide. Currently there are 122 IBAs in South Africa, spanning over 14 million hectares, of which about 60% is unprotected and privately-owned land. As the country partner to BirdLife International, BirdLife South Africa is responsible for managing the IBA Programme in South Africa. Its objectives are to assess, monitor and coordinate or implement the conservation of IBAs.

Ideally, each IBA should be large enough to support self-sustaining populations of as many as possible of the trigger bird species for which it was identified or, in the case of migrants, fulfil their requirements for the duration of their presence. The most important objective of the IBA Programme is to ensure these sites are protected and managed for the benefit of the IBA trigger species.

By conserving habitats important for birds, BirdLife South Africa also conserve the millions of other associated species which make up the web of life in these important systems. By conserving healthy ecosystems, we support all the associated ecosystem services (e.g. water purification, flood retention, healthy soils, etc.), and in effect support a huge component of the South African economy (e.g. water production and agriculture). Over 90% of South Africa's IBAs contain important sources of water, from rivers and vleis, to watersheds and estuaries. Without clean water, cities, towns, industry and agriculture will come to a halt. Without wetlands, forests and grasslands, the most vulnerable people are at risk during natural disasters in a changing climate. By conserving birds and these most important sites, we are in effect conserving a sustainable future to support our country's people.



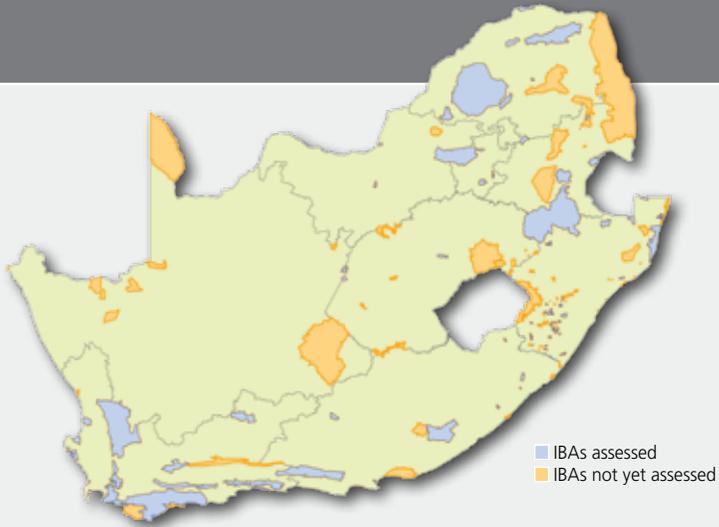
Albert Froneman

“ By conserving habitats important for birds, we also conserve the millions of other associated species which make up the web of life in these important systems. ”



Albert Froneman

Albert Froneman



IBAs assessed.

IBA Status Report

The production of the first IBA Status Report for South Africa is nearing completion. The report will provide an overview of the state of habitats in IBAs, threats to IBAs and conservation action taking place in IBAs. The report is based on IBAs assessed between 2010 and 2014 by BirdLife South Africa staff, with assistance from partners and other experts, using a rigorous international monitoring protocol. By December 2013, nearly 66 IBAs had been assessed, amounting to 54% of the network. Of these, 53% are unprotected and 47% are protected.

Standardised scoring makes it easy to identify and analyse trends – for example, to compare protected and unprotected IBAs. Results can also be collated nationally, regionally and globally. The IBA assessment protocol

focuses on evaluating the state of and pressures on habitats and species, and the conservation responses at IBAs. Examples of threats are agricultural expansion and intensification, energy production, and mining and pollution. The state indicator refers to the condition of the site's key bird species and the state of the habitat that support these species. The response indicators identify and track conservation actions taking place at the IBA, i.e. protection, management planning and implementation.

The IBA Status Report will also provide case studies across these themes, and provide recommendations to a multitude of stakeholders aimed at policy making and management to ensure the long-term success of conserving IBAs for birds. This supports the ultimate aim of the IBA Programme, which is to mainstream IBAs in conservation planning, decision making and action. The report will be available in April 2014.

Biodiversity Stewardship

Through voluntary legal agreements with landowners, Biodiversity Stewardship provides a cost effective conservation tool for securing biodiversity, promoting the sustainable management of natural resources and expanding the protected area network outside of state-owned national parks and nature reserves. Stewardship unites farming communities, fuels passion for the environment, and encourages landowners to take pride in the natural assets, especially threatened bird species, of which they are custodians. In collaboration with provincial conservation agencies and departments and partner environmental organisations, for the past three years BirdLife South Africa has engaged landowners in the process of declaring around 100 000 ha of protected areas in three priority IBAs: Grasslands, Chrissie Pans and Steenkampsberg.



Similarly, a further 2 000 ha will soon be protected in the KZN Mistbelt Grasslands IBA. BirdLife South Africa has also started working with Sappi to identify areas owned by Sappi that are of conservation value, developing management plans for these and proclaiming the most important as a protected areas. In 2014, BirdLife South Africa will begin Biodiversity Stewardship work at the Verlorenvlei IBA on the west coast of South Africa and at Sappi-owned land in southern KwaZulu-Natal. These proposed declarations will contribute towards conserving grasslands, fynbos and estuaries in IBAs, whilst maintaining livelihoods such as livestock farming, agriculture and tourism, thus ensuring food and water security. Biodiversity Stewardship is visionary and once finalised will go down in South Africa's history as a true representation of inspired good governance.

Burning and grazing for grassland bird conservation

Agricultural practices are among the greatest threats to unprotected grassland IBAs. BirdLife South Africa recognised the need for habitat management recommendations for bird conservation in grassland IBAs. With funding from WWF Nedbank Green Trust we developed "Bird-friendly burning and grazing best-practice for grasslands", a peer-reviewed synthesis of scientific knowledge and expert opinion. We also published a "user-friendly" brochure in English, Afrikaans and isiZulu.

Our guidelines are intended to promote awareness and conservation of threatened grassland birds, primarily in the red meat production sector.

These guidelines are aimed at anyone working towards the parallel objectives of economically-viable livestock production, improved veld condition and biodiversity conservation.

The take-home message is to manage for variability (and thereby bird diversity) by applying different frequencies, timing and intensities of fire; through grazing regimes that avoid the extremes of high- or low-intensity grazing; and complete rest for at least one growing season every four years, taking veld condition into consideration.



BIRDS AND PEOPLE

Hosting events

BirdLife South Africa hosted a number of important and successful events during 2013, including an "In the Red" Valentine's Day event with Etana Insurance and Charles Greig Jewellers in February, Flock at Sea in March, the Sasol Bird Fair at the Johannesburg Zoo in May, the Owl Awards at Misty Hills in Muldersdrift in August, the Save our Seabirds Festival in October, the annual Staff Meeting and Birding Big Day in November.

Over 30 cyclists pedalled for the birds as part of team "Fast & Featherless" at the 94.7 Momentum Cycle Challenge. The Bird of the Year was the White-winged Flufftail and, with funding from Eskom, a poster, pin badge, lesson plans and activity sheets were designed and distributed. BirdLife South Africa also participated in a Conservation Day at Hollard in July and at the Beechwood Gardens Open Weekend and the Photo & Film Expo in November.

Three very successful Golden Bird Patron functions were held in L'Ormarins Estate in Franschhoek, Audacia Manor in Durban and CIRCA on Jellicoe in Johannesburg. Mark Cocker, the acclaimed and award-winning author, was the guest speaker at these events, and personalised copies of his "Birds & People" and framed certificates were presented to BirdLife South Africa's Golden Bird Patrons.



"In the Red" was held on Valentine's Day to raise awareness about Red Data Species.



The Sasol Bird Fair was a well attended event of talks, courses, displays and other activities.



BirdLife South Africa had displays at other events, including the Greig Garden Open Weekend and the Photo & Film Expo.

Flock at Sea

BirdLife South Africa's Annual General Meeting (AGM), or Flock as we call it, is always a special occasion. The 2013 Flock was a little different, as it was held onboard the gigantic cruise liner MSC Opera, which took more than 1 100 birders from Cape Town to Walvis Bay and back over five days. For many it was their first Flock, their first cruise experience, and their first look at pelagic seabirds. During the cruise there were courses in seabird identification and digital photography, and half a dozen lectures, lead by invited international guest Peter Harrison. He is one of the world's top guides, artists, philanthropists and authors on seabird matters. Peter exceeded all expectations, entertaining all who stood near him on decks with stories and facts about the birds encountered. His two lectures were amongst the most moving and memorable lectures imaginable, providing the perfect setting for an AGM of a bird conservation organisation. The seabirding was also excellent, with 34 seabird species (just under 10% of the world's seabird species) being recorded. All 18 bird guides assisted the passengers with locating and identifying seabirds, with special thanks to Adam Riley of Rockjumper Birding Tours who provided six guides, at no cost to BirdLife South Africa. At the AGM we announced the 2014 Bird of the Year (fittingly enough, the Tristan Albatross, at the time the only Critically Endangered bird that occurs in South Africa), and that through Flock 2013, the Albatross Task Force would receive R150 000 to continue its important work.



John Maarschalk



John Maarschalk



Robbie Aspeling



Flock at Sea is widely considered to be the largest and most successful event BirdLife South Africa has ever hosted.



John Maarschalk



John Maarschalk

A Luta Ambiente Continua: Fledging of Associação Ambiente, Conservação e Educação Moçambique

Birds do not recognise international boundaries. The effective conservation of resident, as well as intra-African and Palearctic bird populations, requires a regional effort, involving all of our partners in the SADC region. It is essential that assistance is provided to these organisations in order to strengthen conservation capacity for the benefit of birds and their habitats. With BirdLife South Africa's support, an important milestone for bird conservation in Mozambique was reached in 2013 with the official registration by the national government of Associação Ambiente, Conservação e Educação Moçambique (AACEM).

AACEM was able to employ a project coordinator based in Maputo, establish an office, host a beginners' bird course and a birding tourism workshop, and engage with children through several environmental education days. Delegates attended the 2013 British Birding Fair at Rutland Waters, UK, to promote birding tourism opportunities in the country. A review of birding sites and Key Biodiversity Areas (KBAs) in southern and central Mozambique was also completed. Recently and with the assistance of Wetlands International, BirdLife South Africa and AACEM completed a baseline assessment of key estuaries for waterbirds in Mozambique. BirdLife South Africa is satisfied that a significant conservation contribution has been made. We will continue to support AACEM on its path to being recognised as a fully-fledged BirdLife partner.



Martin Taylor



Martin Taylor



Peter Chadwick

Sasol Bird Guide Training Programme

People are essential for the conservation of South Africa's birds and their habitats. Through the Sasol Bird Guide Training Programme, BirdLife South Africa has been able to engage with communities in rural areas through environmental education programmes, tree planting initiatives, assisting researchers with the gathering of data and showcasing South Africa's diverse range of birds to birdwatchers from all around the globe. BirdLife South Africa hosted three bird guide-training courses and provided funding to guides involved in a range of conservation and environmental education initiatives in their areas. isiZulu-speaking guides, such as Sakhumuzi Mhlongo and Themba Mthembu, contributed significantly to a workshop on the development of isiZulu bird names hosted by the University of KwaZulu-Natal while a number of bird guides are giving back to their communities through the training of fledgling bird guides with the assistance of BirdLife South Africa. The achievements of the programme were recognised by Swarovski Optik, one of the world's leading optics manufacturers, who will be loaning the region's top guides with quality optics. In 2014, BirdLife South Africa will be looking to build on these successes of the past year through the hosting of five guide training courses, including a course in Mozambique, and a growth in support provided to conservation and community projects initiated by bird guides.



“ Birds do not recognise international boundaries. ”

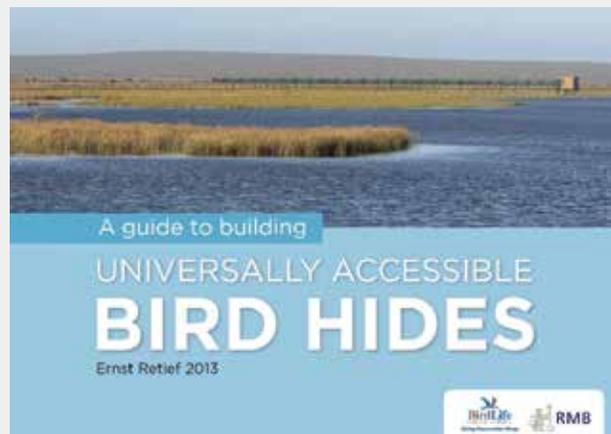
Birding facilities should be accessible to all

South African birders are fortunate as there is a wide range of birding facilities, from bird hides to walkways. Unfortunately these facilities are not always accessible to people in wheel chairs or to the elderly. Steep steps to hides, dilapidated pathways and benches that are either too high or too low, can exclude some birdwatchers from making use of these facilities. In order to address this issue and with funding from Rand Merchant Bank, BirdLife South Africa produced a guideline document about the building of bird hides and how to ensure that they are accessible to all. The informative document is available on the BirdLife South Africa website. Articles about this document were published in *African Birdlife* and *Rolling Inspirations* magazines.

Public and government responses to the publication have been overwhelmingly positive. The relevant webpage has had more than 1 200 hits with many people requesting e-copies of the document. It is hoped that the guideline document will considerably improve the quality of birding facilities in South Africa and make them accessible to all of our country's people.



Ernst Retief



“ South African birders are fortunate as there is a wide range of birding facilities, from bird hides to walkways. ”

Publications

BirdLife South Africa produces *Ostrich* – a scientific journal, *African Birdlife*, – a glossy magazine, and *Ornithological Observations* – an e-journal produced in partnership with the Animal Demography Unit. Other means of communication are through a website (www.birdlife.org.za), a monthly e-newsletter, weekly email updates and regular media releases.

African Birdlife magazine has had a successful first year of publication. The aim of the magazine is to highlight the work of BirdLife South Africa and at the same time to grow the general birding market by presenting accessible, interesting and visually appealing articles that will encourage readers to become – and remain – passionate about birds and birding. The magazine received gratifying support both from readers and advertisers, and has been financially self-sustaining. This encouraged us to increase the page extent of each issue from 72 to 80 pages, and to change the binding from saddle-stitched to perfect binding (a more upmarket look with a spine). The number of subscribers/members receiving the magazine has increased during the past year, which is a healthy trend in a market that is acknowledged as being difficult for print magazines. At the end of 2013, in response to many requests, the decision was taken to make issues of the magazine available in digital format, as an app, in addition to the print version. The apps will become available early in 2014.



SPONSORS AND SUPPORTERS

Sponsors and supporters

BirdLife South Africa is very grateful to the many people, organisations and companies which support its work. These include the volunteers who serve on the Audit and Investment, Conservation Advisory, Council, Endorsement, ExCo, Flock, IBA, Legacy, List, Marketing, Membership, and Rarities committees. Many BirdLife South Africa members also serve on bird club committees and the three regional fora. We are also grateful to the volunteers who assist at BirdLife South Africa's head office.

Donors (R1000 or more, and significant in kind contributions)

African Mining and Trust Company Limited, N.J. Aggett, Airports Company South Africa SOC Ltd, David Allan, Gary Allport, Tania Anderson, Animal Demography Unit, Aon South Africa (Pty) Ltd, A.P. Leventis Ornithological Research Institute, Cleo Artemides, Robbie Aspeling, Atmei Construction, Avian Leisure, Avima (Pty) Ltd, AVIS Rent A Car South Africa, Celia Bayley, J. Beare, Martin Benadie, Birding Africa, Birding Big Day participants, Birding Ecotours, BirdLife Eastern Cape, BirdLife Free State, BirdLife Inkwazi, BirdLife International, BirdLife Lowveld, BirdLife Northern Gauteng, BirdLife Northern Natal, BirdLife Port Natal, BirdLife Sandton, BirdLife Zululand, S.G. Botha, John Bradshaw, BRO Trust, Tanya Caldwell, Philip Calinikos, Colin Campbell, J.C. Campkin, Canon South Africa, Cape Bird Club, Patrick Cardwell, Sven Carlsson-Smith, Carl Zeiss (Pty) Ltd, Peter Chadwick, David Chamberlain, Champion Wildlife, Charles Greig Jewellers, Charl van der Merwe Trust, Chas Greig & Son (Pty) Ltd, City of Cape Town, Michael Clacey, D. Coetzee, Callan Cohen, Conservation International Foundation, Continental Outdoor Media, Ronald Cook, Chris Cory, Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund, CropLife South Africa, S.B. Davis, Adri de Beer, Jack de Boer, Department of Environmental Affairs, Department of Tourism, Diemersfontein Wine & Country Estate, Malcolm Drummond, Duinepos Chalets, R. du Plessis, Durban Natural Science Museum, Bruce Dyer, Edward Snell & Co, Johan Eksteen, Elaine's Birding and Wildlife Products, Arno Ellmer, Endangered Wildlife Trust, E. Oppenheimer & Son, Eskom Holdings SOC Limited, e.tv, Etana Insurance, Everard Read Gallery, Fast & Featherless participants, Andy Featherstone, F.H. Chamberlain Trading (Pty) Ltd, First Rand Foundation, Albert Froneman, Marietjie Froneman, Brett & Miona Gardner, Dalton Gibbs, Gordon Institute of Business Science, Eve Gracie, Ross Grainger, Greenfields Vet, GreenMatter, Gregory Hawarden Memorial Trust, Christopher Greig, Grindrod Bank, Joe Grosel, Beth Hackland, Hans Hoheisen Charitable Trust, Harmony Gold Mining Company Ltd, Peter Harrison, Bill Heck, L. Henderson, Honda Motor South Africa (Pty) Ltd, Honda Sandton, Investec Capital Markets, Neville & Pamela Isdell, Iziko Museums of South Africa, Gerrie & Marietjie Jansen van Rensburg, Johannesburg Zoo, John Dory's, David Johnson, Sally Johnson, A.J. Kerslake, Khoisan Trading Co., Knysna Toyota, KPMG, Lakes Bird Club, Gareth Leonard, Phil Liggett, Chris Lotz, Lowveld Engineering Enterprise, Duncan MacFadyen, Don MacRobert, Chris Magin, Mapungubwe Travel, Mazda Wildlife Fund, Mike McCullough, Roy McGrath, D.S. Minneycc, Misty Hills Country Hotel, Conference Centre & Spa, Jack Mitchell, Mitsui & Co, G. Morrison, Mr Price Group Ltd., Alvina Muthufamy, MySchool/MyVillage/MyPlanet Programme, N3 Toll Concession (Pty) Ltd, Quereshini Naidoo, Namaqua Foundation, Natural History Unit (South Africa), Tim Neary, P.H. Netscher, Northern Cape Tourism, Nyumbu Game, Oceana Group Limited, Ombudsman for Short-term Insurance, One Ocean Expeditions, Jonathan and Jennifer Oppenheimer, Orms Pro Photo Warehouse, Gisela Ortner, Julius Ortner, Oryx Worldwide Photographic Expeditions, Outsrc Business Solutions, Palabora Copper, Percy FitzPatrick Institute of African Ornithology, Niall Perrins, Petra Diamonds Limited, Philagro, Photodestination, Picot & Moss, Pnm Short Hauliers Pty (Ltd), D. Potgieter, Nick Prentice, Pullen family, Chantal Ramcharan-Kotze, Rand Merchant Bank Fund, Random House Struik, Selwyn Rautenbach, Lance Robinson, Rockjumper Worldwide Birding Adventures, Dominic Rollinson, Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, Gaynor Rupert, Rupert Natuurstigting, Peter Ryan, SANCCOB, SANParks West Rand Honorary Rangers, Sappi, Sasol, Sasol Social and Community Trust, Secretary's Day donors, Ian Sinclair, Susan Sloan, South African National Biodiversity Institute, South African Wind Energy Association, Southern African Birding cc, Nigel Stainforth, Stella and Paul Loewenstein Charitable and Educational Trust, Stonehaven on Vaal, Swarovski Optik, E. Szabo, Warwick Tarboton, TheGreenCab, The Herman Ohlthaver Trust, The Jupiter Drawing Room (Utopia), Thelema Wine Estate, The Thornybush Collection, Reg Thomson, K. Tip, TLT Accountants, Total South Africa, Trecor Services (Pty) Ltd, Mel Tripp, M.J. Trumpelmann, Tshikululu Social Investments, UNEP/AEWA, uShaka Marine World, Willene van der Merwe, Van de Venter and Mojapelo (VVM), Dirk, Karen & Stephan van Stuyvenberg, Bryony van Wyk, J. van Wyk, M. Verreyne, Roger Wanless, Graham Warsop, West Coast Bird Club, Wetlands International, Phil Whittington, Wildlife & Environment Society of South Africa, Witwatersrand Bird Club, Whylo, Andrew Whysall, T.G. Wood, WWF Nedbank Green Trust, WWF-SA Table Mountain Fund, WWF South Africa, Mark Young, Zest for Birds, R. Zietsman.

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FINANCES

The financial statements of BirdLife South Africa for the year ended 31 December 2013 have been audited by KPMG. Set out below are the abridged statements of comprehensive income for the year ended 31 December 2013 and financial position at that date. These have been extracted from the Audited Financial Statements and reflect net profitable results for the various activities undertaken by BirdLife South Africa and disclose a sound financial position.



Mike McCullough
Treasurer

ABRIDGED STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2013

	2013 (R)	2012 (R)
Gross income	21 011 326	16 334 394
Gross expenditure	19 865 625	15 990 250
Net income from operations	1 145 701	344 144
Surplus on disposal of investments	133 088	121 623
Net income for the year	1 278 789	465 767
Other comprehensive income	1 092 281	1 315 463
Bequests and donations to sustainability fund	108 327	300 352
Surplus on adjustment of South African equities to fair market value	983 954	1 015 111
Total comprehensive income for the year	2 371 070	1 781 230

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2013

	2013 (R)	2012 (R)
ASSETS		
Non-current assets	7 120 628	5 874 653
Property, vehicles and equipment	668 803	680 466
Investments	6 451 825	5 194 187
Current assets	11 897 817	8 136 620
Trade and other receivables	1 303 905	1 549 869
Cash and cash equivalents	10 593 912	6 586 751
Total assets	19 018 445	14 011 273
EQUITIES AND LIABILITIES		
Reserves		
Accumulated funds	8 067 036	5 695 966
Current liabilities	10 951 409	8 315 307
Deferred revenue	9 246 195	6 811 527
Subscriptions received in advance	621 402	505 844
Trade and other payables	1 083 812	997 936
Total equities and liabilities	19 018 445	14 011 273

Patrons

Dr Precious Moloi-Motsepe | Mrs Gaynor Rupert | Mr Mark Shuttleworth

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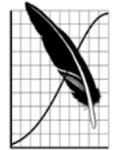
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Albert Froneman



by sappi

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