



District 410A

"Green Living"

February 2014



We Need Vision

World Wetlands Day—2 February

South Africans had a special reason to celebrate World Wetlands Day—the critically endangered Wattled Crane population has finally stabilised.

At close to 2m, the Wattled Crane is the largest crane in Africa and the second tallest crane of India, South-East Asia and Australia. It occurs in 11 sub-Saharan countries including an isolated population in the Ethiopian highlands. More than ½ of world's Wattled Cranes occur in Zambia but the single largest concentration occurs in the Okavango Delta of Botswana.

This crane favours relatively inaccessible wetlands under most conditions and while omnivorous like all cranes, its main food source is the tubers and rhizomes of submerged sedges and water lilies.



Adopt for love

You can say "I Love You" by adopting and naming 2 penguins for the price of one (@ R500) from SANCCOB.

Penguins mate for life and have become a universal symbol of true and lasting love. However, African penguins are endangered as their numbers have declined by 69% in the last decade alone.

To get your Valentine's pair and to win the admiration of your lovebird, visit www.sanccob.co.za (or dial 021 557-6155) and SANCCOB will get your special Valentine's pack winging its way to you.

Each of your adoption packs will include a photograph of your penguins with a letter and certification of adoption.

This special promotion is valid until Friday, 14 February.

Summer fun



Sunshine, surf and sand are heaven for our four-legged friends, but before you head for the beach or park, remember the following :

- * a little sunblock on your dog's snout and ears will help protect him from the sun;
- * Take particular care of older dogs and breeds such as bulldogs that overheat easily & struggle to breathe;
- * If you suspect your dog has sunstroke, get him out of the sun immediately and cool him down with cold (not ice-cold) water. At the beach you can immerse him in the sea. Use icepacks and cold towels on his head, neck & chest.
 - * As soon as his condition improves, allow him to drink water and lick ice cubes.
- * Signs of heatstroke—include intense, rapid panting, wide eyes, salivating, staggering and weakness. Advanced heat stroke victim will collapse and become unconscious and the gums will appear pale and dry.
 - * Take him to the vet as soon as you can.

Garden tasks for February

February is generally very hot and dry, so make sure your garden is well mulched to retain moisture.

Water plants deeply but infrequently—and don't forget container plants which dry out far quicker than those in the flowerbeds.

Deadhead late summer-flowering bulbs such as dahlias and cannas.

Sow seeds of lettuce, beetroot, cabbage, leek, celery, carrot, dwarf spinach, onion and turnip.

Sow in trays and transplant the seedlings when they are about 5cm tall.



And the winner is...



Thanks to the 2 Lions who submitted their stunning photographs for the Lions Environmental Photo Contest.

Judging took place at the February cabinet meeting and the winner is —

Lion Lizette van Wyk from Wellington Lions Club.

Her entry will be submitted to the Multiple District Council meeting on 22 February for overall judging.

Keep your fingers crossed that our District wins!!



DC Liz