

# Kirstenbosch Branch

## Newsletter



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**May 2011**

## Chelsea Flower Show

Thanks to the generous sponsorship by the Provincial Government of the Western Cape and the SA Gold Coin Exchange, Kirstenbosch—South Africa will exhibit this year once again at the Royal Horticultural Society's Chelsea Flower Show in London from 24 to 28 May. The two sponsors came to the rescue at the eleventh hour and have ensured our 36th year of exhibiting at this prestigious event.

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**Botanical Landscapes** is the theme for the 2011 Kirstenbosch—South Africa exhibit inspired by two of the eight World Heritage Sites in South Africa

Designers David Davidson and Raymond Hudson have chosen the Cape Floral Kingdom of the Western Cape and the arid, mountainous desert of the Northern Cape's Richtersveld region—two iconic and diverse botanical landscapes, sharply contrasting and rich in species diversity—as the subject of the display.

### Branch Sponsors Students

We are happy to welcome the five students and interns who are this year being sponsored by Kirstenbosch Branch to be trained and nurtured by the Horticulturists at Kirstenbosch.

The Branch wishes Tamzin Lakey, Rebecca Wengrowe, Kyle Smith, James Deacon and Julia Dabush well and hopes that their time at Kirstenbosch will ensure that they will be part of the future of horticulture and conservation.

# Kirstenbosch Garden Fair



The 36<sup>th</sup> annual Garden Fair took place on Saturday 19 and Sunday 20 March 2011. It was a resounding success despite temperatures in the very high 30s on the Saturday.

We hope you will have read and enjoyed the article by Horticulturist, Roger Oliver in the March 2011 issue of *Veld & Flora* on **Fynbos and Companion Plants** – the theme of this year’s Garden Fair.

Once again, credit must go to the volunteers who assist with this annual fundraising event, both in the run up to and during the Garden Fair, and the many volunteers who work all year round in the nurseries at Kirstenbosch helping with potting, weeding and feeding of plants. Many thanks too to the Kirstenbosch Branch staff who manned the tills and assisted in the office and to the Kirstenbosch horticulturists, gardeners and many others who gave of their time to make this annual event what it is.

The proceeds from this event go to the Kirstenbosch Partnership Fund.



BotSoc Volunteers helping with the setup of the Garden Fair.





Volunteers preparing posters to advertise the Garden Fair.



Volunteers preparing plant labels for the Garden Fair.



## Farewell to Josias Tamboer

We said farewell to Josias Tamboer who has retired after 36 years at Kirstenbosch and 36 years of Garden Fairs! Tamboer, as he is known, started working at Kirstenbosch at the age of 20. Over the years his knowledge of plants and propagation grew and he was appointed foreman of the Collections Nursery.

When asked about her memories of working with Tamboer for 24 years, BotSoc Volunteer Dorothy Malan responded: "Tamboer was always a joy to work with – completely dependable and always with a smile on his face – accompanied by a great sense of humour, teasing the Vols and pretending to keep our noses to the grindstone! He has been a tower of strength at every Garden Fair – anything that has gone wrong or needs doing, the remedy was always: find Tamboer!" He will be missed!

Pictured above right: Tamboer receiving a certificate of recognition for 36 years of service to the Kirstenbosch Garden Fair from Garden Fair convenor, Janette Yeats.



# Kirstenbosch Biodiversity Expo

The Biodiversity Expo 2011 takes place at the Kirstenbosch National Botanical Garden from 5-8 May 2011 from 09h00-16h30 at the Visitors' Centre.

The Expo is a gathering of conservation organisations to exhibit their conservation work to the general public.

For more information visit

[http://www.sanbi.org/images/eventlist/documents/bioexpo\\_2011\\_programme.pdf](http://www.sanbi.org/images/eventlist/documents/bioexpo_2011_programme.pdf)

For an invitation to the special **Sunday Event** visit

[http://www.sanbi.org/images/eventlist/documents/bioexpo2011\\_invite\\_%20conserv\\_adventure.pdf](http://www.sanbi.org/images/eventlist/documents/bioexpo2011_invite_%20conserv_adventure.pdf)

For more information phone 021 799-8783.

## Winter Wonders Walks

Offered during school holidays 24-18 July 2011

**All Creatures Great and Small** – Let's explore animals that make Kirstenbosch their home in water, forest, fynbos and in the rockery. Suitable for school-going children and adults with a curiosity for animal life. 60-90 minutes.

11h00 Thursday 30 June, 7 July & 14 July

**Adventure Hike for Pre-schoolers and Mums/Dads:** Younger ones welcome in backpacks.

10h00 Monday 27 June, 4 July & 11 July

**Meet the King:** Where did he come from? Who are his family? **The Protea Story.**

10h00-12h00 Monday 27 June

**Magnificent Medicinal Plants for the Garden**

11h00 Monday 4 July & 11 July

**Birds of Paradise** – all ages

10h00-12h00 Wednesday 29 June, 6 July & 13 July

**Grandparents and Grandchildren:**

Share the fun of Kirstenbosch

11h00 Tuesday 12 July

**Aloes – Hot Favourites for Cool Weather**

11h00 Wednesday 13 July, Saturday 9 July & 16 July

**Forest Walk**

10h00 Fridays 1 July and 8 July

**Survival Tactics – Secret Life of Succulents**

11h00 Saturday 2 July, Tuesday 5 July & Friday 15 July

## Dates to Diarise

**KIRSTENBOSCH  
CRAFT MARKET**

**Sunday 29 May 2011**

**Closed June, July & August**

**Sunday 25 September 2011**

**Sunday 30 October 2011**

**Sunday 27 November 2011**

**Sunday 11 December 2011**

**Sunday 18 December 2011**

# Kirstenbosch Branch Walks

The ever popular walks programme continues with regular half and full day walks of varying intensity led by members. Always take wind and waterproof clothing, adequate water and sun-screen (particularly in summer) when participating in walks.

## Sunday 8 May

### Simonstown.

Traverse along the summit of the Simonstown mountains to the Cape Point gate. This is a spectacular walk with magnificent views. Meet at 08h30 at the Lakeside Boyes Drive turnoff. Strenuous. Duration 6 hours.

Leaders: Dirk Muller 021 762-2473; Pat & Tony Rebelo 021 712-7816; Jean Stephenson 021 531-7468; Frans Viljoen 021 531-4596.

## Wednesday 18 May

### Midweek Walk: Muizenberg Peak via Steenberg Ridge.

Meet at Silvermine (waterfall side) at 08h30 for a reasonably strenuous morning walk. 4 hours.

Leaders: Margaret Kahle 021 762-3170; Jenny Mountain 021 794-7129; Jennetta Tilney 021 788-7061; Cathy Cavvadas 021 434-4242.

## Saturday 21 May

### Morning Walk

Meet at Constantia Nek at 09h00. Ascent up to the Camel and down the Bridal Path.

Leaders: Ivor Jardine 021 689-9031; Margeret Herron 021 685-5579; Ray Green 021 683-5249; Moiragh Girdwood 021 671-6890.

## Saturday 28 May

### Botanical Ramble

Please phone walk leaders Jenny and Peter Ryan on 021 761-4927 for details.

## Sunday 5 June

### Tranquility Cracks

Meet at the Theresa Road parking area at 09h00. Reasonably strenuous. Duration 5 hours.

Leaders: Margeret Kahle 021 762-3170; Ann Mac Gregor 021 785-7276; Bruce MacKenzie 021 531-1777; Heidi Timm 021 671-0726.

## Wednesday 15 June

### Midweek Walk: Echo Valley and Spes Bona

Meet at Boyes Drive turn-off at Lakeside at 08h30 for a reasonably strenuous morning walk.

4 hours. Leaders: Sheila Robinson 021 782-0773; Gisela Mittendorf 021 422-1394; Adré Marshall 021 762-1943; Ann McGregor 021 712-9914.

## Sunday 19 June

### Morning Walk: Lions Head

Meet at 09h00 at the carpark.

Leaders: Gisela Mittendorf 021 422-1394; Adre Marshall 021 762-1943; Denise Moody 021 683-4745; Glenda Moore 021 674-1891; Jennetta Tilney 021 788-7061; Jenny Mountain 021 794-7129.

## Saturday 25 June

### Botanical Ramble

Please phone walk leaders Jenny and Peter Ryan on 021 761-4927 for details.

# Events at Kirstenbosch

## Free Guided Garden Tours in Kirstenbosch Garden

Free guided tours of the Garden leave from the Information Desk in the Visitors' Centre (Gate 1) at 10h00 Mondays to Saturdays (no tours on Sundays).

Tours are free and are approximately 90 minutes long. Capacity is limited to 15 people, and places are allocated on a first-come-first-served basis. To secure your place, please register with your guide at the Information Desk 15 minutes before the tour departs. Please note: groups of 5 or more people must pre-book.

## Winter Concert Series in the Silvertree Restaurant

15 May 2011: Taxi Violence

22 May 2011: James Steward

05 June 2011: Sterling EQ

12 June 2011: Andra

19 June 2011: Claire Phillips

10 July 2011: Verity

17 July 2011: Ike Moritz

24 July 2011: Bed on Bricks

To book: 021 762 9585/021 762 9585  
or email

[info@kirstenboschrestaurant.com](mailto:info@kirstenboschrestaurant.com)

## Wednesday Talks by Room to Grow

04 May 2011: Natie Ferreira from Pink Geranium Nursery in Franschoek – *Landscaped gardens in the Boland.*

01 June 2011: Anthony Hitchcock, Kirstenbosch horticulturist – *Cave exploration/discovery in the Western Cape.*

15 June 2011: Award winning designer David Davidson – *2011 Chelsea Flower Show.*

29 June 2011: Nadya Buchanan – *Soil preparation using Neutrog fertilisers.*

13 July 2011: Morne Faulhamer, nurseryman and radio personality – *Fragrant plants in your garden.*

27 July 2011: Adam Harrower, Kirstenbosch horticulturist – *Exploring the Gardens of Kyoto, Japan.*

All talks are from 10h30-11h30 in the Sanlam Hall.

## Special Interest and Group Tours

Special interest tours and group bookings can be arranged in advance via the Information Desk at a fee of R35 per person, additional to garden entry fee, with a minimum of R245 per tour.

To make a booking or enquire further, contact the Information Desk at 021 799-8783 or fax 021 797-6570.

## Shuttle Car Tours

Shuttle car tours of the Garden leave from the Visitors' Centre (Gate 1), on the hour, daily, from 09h00 to 15h00, on fair-weather days. The shuttle car can accommodate a maximum of 7 passengers.

Tickets for the Shuttle Car Tours cost R45 per person, additional to Garden entry fee. Tickets are purchased from the Ticket Office along with the Garden entry ticket. To book, call the Kirstenbosch Ticket Office on 021 799-8782 between 08h00 and 17h00.

## MyGuide Audio Guide

The MyGuide self-guiding audio system is available in English or German from the Information Desk, Visitors' Centre (Gate 1). Tickets for the MyGuide handsets cost R40 per handset, additional to Garden entry fee. Tickets are purchased from the Ticket Office along with the Garden entry ticket.

## Art Exhibitions in the Sanlam Hall

6 - 14 May 2011:  
*Professional Cape Artists Exhibition*

13 - 26 May 2011:  
*Watercolour Art Exhibition presented by Professional Cape Artists*

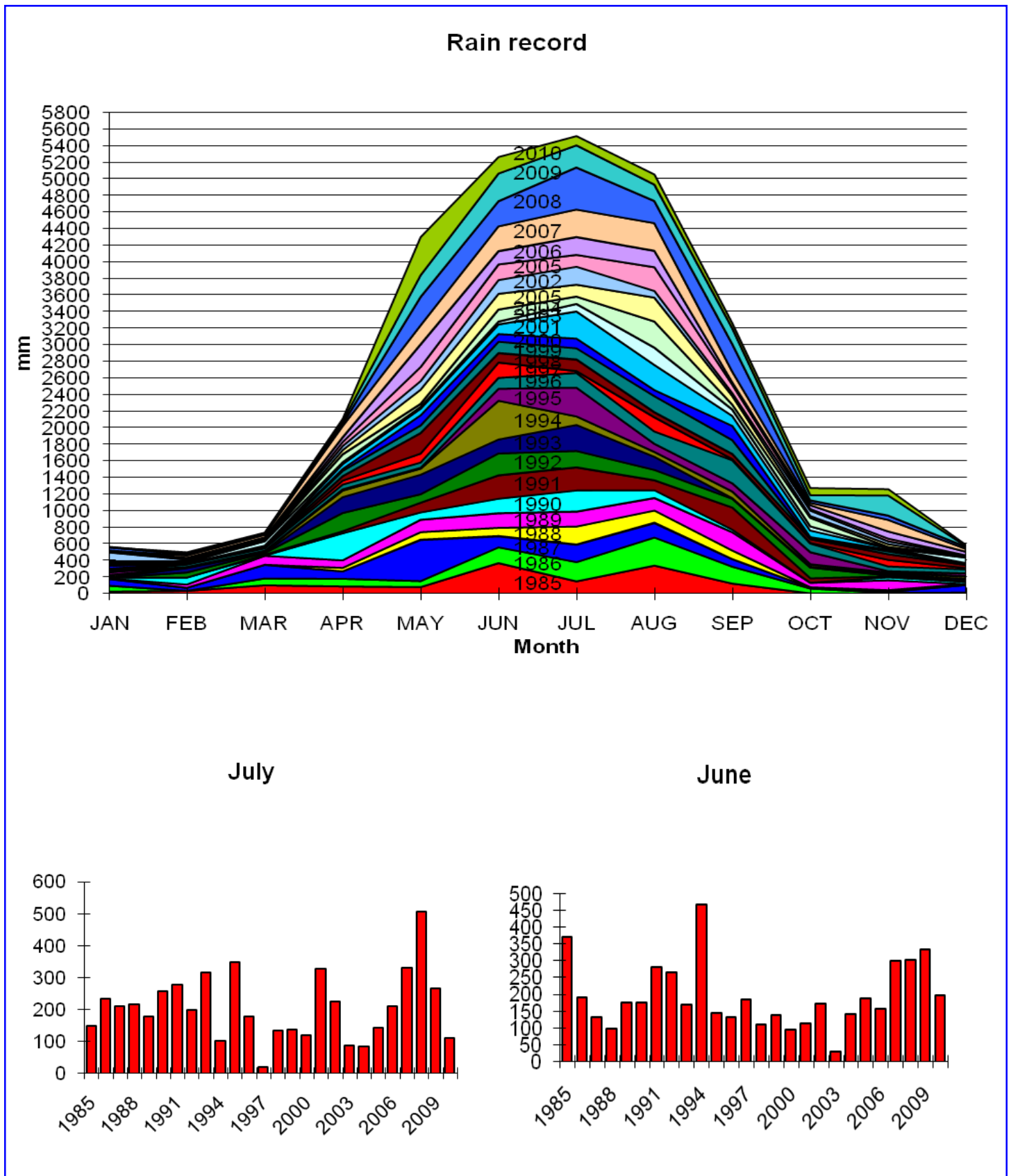
28 May - 6 June 2011:  
*The South African Society of Artists Exhibition*



roomtogrow

For enquiries please contact Cathy Abbott on 021 465-6440 or email [cathya@wol.co.za](mailto:cathya@wol.co.za)

These graphs have been provided by BotSoc members, Colin and Priscilla Rubidge who have been recording the rainfall at their home, very close to Kirstenbosch, since 1985.



## Join our Team

The Kirstenbosch Branch of the Botanical Society is looking for an energetic and forward-thinking team player whose ability to multi-task is essential.

Maturity, good organisational skills and a knowledge of finances are also essential.

Must be able to communicate on many levels and a botanical background would be advantageous.

This is a full time position which requires some weekend work.

Salary package commensurate with qualifications and experience.

Application in writing plus CV to:

The Branch Manager  
Kirstenbosch Branch  
PO Box 53445, Kenilworth 7745 or  
[C.McNaughton@botanicalsociety.org.za](mailto:C.McNaughton@botanicalsociety.org.za)

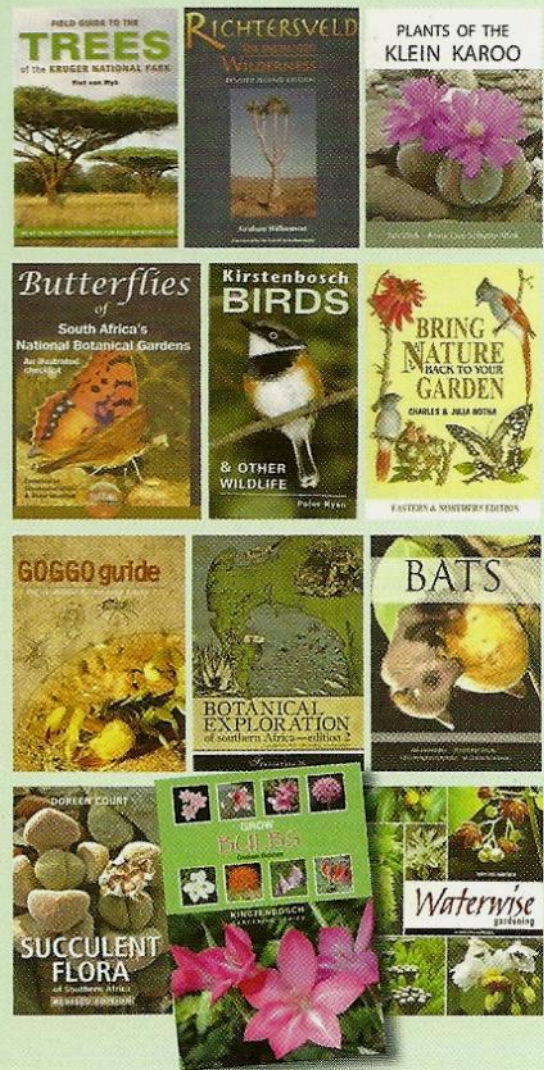
Contributions to the quarterly newsletter are welcome. If you have something you would like to contribute please contact Catherine Gribble in the Branch office:

Telephone: 021 671-5468

Fax: 021 671-7146

Email: [gribblec@botanicalsociety.org.za](mailto:gribblec@botanicalsociety.org.za)

**Kirstenbosch Branch Committee Members:**  
Peter Ryan, Chairman and Honorary Treasurer  
Timothy Attwell  
Rory Gilmore  
Rupert Koopman  
Dirk Muller  
Janette Yeats



NOW AVAILABLE  
FROM THE  
KIRSTENBOSCH  
BOOKSHOP



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