

## **DARGLE CONSERVANCY 2021 : A Summary**

### **Activities, Actions, Appointments, Assignments, Alliances, Advancements and Annoyances**

#### **JANUARY**

- The new Dargle Conservancy sign at the beginning of the P134 was installed
- Assistance and advice provided to Nxamalala crop growing project.
- Continuation of road side clean-up initiative, and a start on clearing of scrub gum in conjunction with landowners. The clean up team was further employed by private landowners.
- Use of our funding to brush cut overgrown Dargle School grounds before start of term. Held a site meeting to discuss water and sanitation, and discovered they do in fact have a borehole which was re-activated. Put out a request for donations for cleaning equipment which was well supported by the community. A printer was donated (since stolen!). Further assistance to this school was put on hold due to uncertainty of its future.
- The Conservancy also funded the clearing of Corrie Lynne School grounds.
- Agreed to assist in clearing the Dargle Falls surrounds (together with adjacent landowners) in order to create accessibility.

#### **FEBRUARY**

- Steve Lourens was welcomed as much needed addition to the DCV team.
- Resignation of Pauline Holden, whose contribution during her time as a volunteer was much appreciated.
- Donation was made to FreeMe for upgrade of tortoise enclosures. Though the Conservancy an appeal was put out to other interested organisations to also assist.
- Dog and cat food (R1800 ex. our remaining Covid funds) was delivered to the Howick SPCA.
- Care Bear Project donated 150 knitted teddy bears which were distributed to Lions River Creche, Corrie Lynn and Dargle Schools.
- Midlands Game Changers meeting attended by our members.
- DCV meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> Feb.

#### **MARCH**

- Clean up of member data base and collection of annual subs.
- Membership drive via various platforms.

#### **APRIL**

- "Farming Water" talk presented by Andrew Fowler (Hebron Haven, 21/4). A successful, well event.
- Planning of AGM (delayed due to non-availability of AFS)

#### **MAY**

- Donation of R3000 by Carl Bronner from proceeds of her Regenerative Farming talk.
- Completion of Dargle Falls project and discussions with landowner (Graham Freese) regarding control of access and indemnity.
- Registration as IAP in respect of proposed piggery (Mello Farm Trading, Portion 10, Farm Mount Park)

## **JUNE**

- Very successful AGM held on 2<sup>nd</sup> June (AFS still outstanding, but will be distributed for ratification electronically). Full minutes are on the website.
- Welcome to Gilly Robartes who volunteered at the AGM to join the DCV committee.
- DCV Meeting on 1th June.
- Refuse signage installed.
- Membership signs distributed to new members (more to be ordered)
- Initiation of Lions River Creche upliftment, and appeal to the community for much needed help.

## **JULY**

- Purchase of new projector screen and presentation clicker.
- Purchase of 2 x new trail cameras (old ones to be sold)
- Clean up team start work on the P132 (11 day funded project, as agreed)

## **AUGUST**

- Donation to FreeMe (towards new lawnmower)

## **SEPTEMBER**

- DCV meeting 23/9. Andrew Fowler as guest to present AMANZI ETHU NOBUNTU project.
- Liaison with Umgeni Tourism and request that we be considered a role player.
- Zoom meeting 30/9 to discuss Amanzi Ethu

## **OCTOBER**

- Further meetings and webinars with Andrew Fowler (nitty gritty of Amanzi Ethu.)
- Inhlosane Walk with guide John Roff on 16/10. Fully booked, and a huge success.

## **NOVEMBER**

- Ongoing negotiations and planning of Amanzi Ethu
- John NacGilivray Mushroom Forage walk on 27/11 at Mount Park
- Amanzi Ethu kicks off on 22/11 (first 2 weeks at Hebron Haven)

## **DECEMBER**

- Ongoing monitoring of Amanzi Ethu – Note that a full project scope and description of this project will be uploaded to our website soon.