IN FOCUS
Your Community Magazine • June 2015

Masters of South African Art
at The Posthouse Gallery

Loadshedding Schedule
For June 2015

Quiz Night
31st July 2015 at the Clubhouse

Dainfern Fellowship
Adult Service and Sunday School 10:00 at the Clubhouse

Glory to Glory Ministries
Sunday Services
IN FOCUS

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June 2015 • 142nd Issue

Official Publication of the Dainfern Nature Association Since 2002

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Cover Photograph Winner
Sue Harwood

Photographic Competition
Congratulations to Sue Harwood for this month’s beautiful landscape photograph with the Egyptian Geese. To enter the cover photographic competition please email photos taken of our nature and wildlife in the Estate to the editor at cobbie@global.co.za. Photos need to be A5 size, in digital format and high resolution.

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Dainfern Nature Association
Committee

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Dear Friends

It’s fascinating at how quickly the evenings draw in and suddenly it’s the 1st of June and its winter! There are many folk worldwide who wouldn’t even call our winter cold but it’s chilly enough for us! That’s why living in Africa is so special.

Sitting on the Stoep

A couple of weeks ago our neighbour arrived from a long absence and came to see us (me?) with a present of Denys Reitz’s third book “No Outspan”. She had seen it on a book sale in Hogsback and bought it for me as a follow up to my stories of his first book “Commando” which I had read and used in tracing the path of General Smuts in his eight month raid into the Cape at the end of the Boer War. Of course I was thrilled and avidly read about Reitz and his travels as Cabinet Minister in the 1930s and early 1940s. One thing stuck in my mind – Reitz travelled by air a lot when flying was still an adventure (one dressed in one’s best clothes when boarding an aeroplane!) and remarked that though there were many stories of ships and the sea there were few adventure stories of aeroplanes. There were some exceptions and he mentioned Neville Shute as one who included aeroplanes in his stories.

This, of course, drove me to my library to find Neville Shute! I found my five novel omnibus of his books including his novel “No Highway”. This was published in 1948 and tells the story of a new super British airline fleet which was put onto the trans-Atlantic route from London to America. But a British scientist working on metal fatigue caused consternation by predicting collapse of the tail plane after 1400 hours of flight. One plane had already crashed but the verdict was put down to pilot error – wrongly – it was the prototype and had done 1393 hours! The rest of the fleet was new and had not flown for very many hours. You can see how the fight between the airline owners and the politicians (who all wanted to keep on flying) and the Farnborough boffins (who wanted the fleet to be grounded) developed.

Well only a couple of years later Britain lauded the first jet airliner the ‘comet’ a massive advance on air travel which swept the board with routes from London to America, Australia and South Africa.

And then they started falling out of the sky.

The first two were adjudged to be some sort of fire aboard and some modifications were made. Then the London-Johannesburg flight exploded, the comets were grounded and the real cause was revealed – metal fatigue. The comet had quite big square windows and, under the high pressure flexing of high altitude flying with pressurised cabins, cracks developed at the corners from metal fatigue – this led to explosive failure of the window or windows and catastrophe for all on board. The comet was modified with smaller rounded windows and took to the skies again but it was too late. The Boeings and others had come in with bigger planes (with rounded windows) and took the market away from the British.

Who reads Neville Shute these days? Most of us read all his books but that was sixty years ago. However his famous novel “No Highway” four years before the comet flew predicted the exact form of failure that then occurred. Uncanny?

Birds, Beasties, Trees, Updates and Important Things

Very quiet this month – are you, along with other creepy crawlies, hibernating?
Nature’s True Colours
I think that the perhaps the most popular page in the In Focus is the one with the picture that the children have to colour in. Once again we have been treated to lots of entries and this month Balli, aged 8, wins the R100. Well done.

Crackerjack
“……Therefore, go forth; companion: when you find No highway more, no track, all being blind, The way to go shall glimmer in the mind.

Though you have conquered Earth and charted Sea And planned the courses of all the Stars that be, Adventure on, more wonders are in Thee.

Adventure on, for from the littlest clue Has come whatever worth man ever knew; The next to lighten all men may be you…….”

John Masefield

Quoted by Neville Shute in the prelude to his book – uncanny matching of poem to narrative …

and of what was to come four years later with the comet – uncanny prescience.

But the comet did lead to getting passengers on a new highway in the sky

Neville Shute was an Oxford University graduate engineer who worked for de Havilland and the successful R100 Airship so he knew first-hand about flying and design.

So, be careful what you read – Reitz led to Shute leads to …………..rockets to the moon and more!

We are all very lucky with the expanding world around us!

Regards from Tony Border

for the Nature Association
Dear Residents,

The chill of winter is setting in. Days are shorter and nights are longer, however, we are so privileged to live in a little corner of paradise, away from the harsh existence that occurs outside our boundary walls. We have such a special blend of homes and nature areas that it seems a waste not to get outside once in a while and enjoy just being here.

We have had a number of upgrades to navigate around, the least of which is the ongoing upgrade of William Nicol Drive to the North East of the Estate which should be completed shortly and the construction of the new lifestyle centre - Dainfern Square - which will include a Woolworths, Pick ‘n Pay, and a Virgin Active Gym and promises to bring convenience to our Residents.

The Upgrade of the William Nicol will extend all the way to the N14 and is expected to commence in July 2015. The Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) scope of study for the Erling extension between William Nicol and Main Road has recently been approved. The full EIA for this link has commenced.

The tender in respect of the Cedar Road upgrade has been awarded. The site handover has occurred and road survey has commenced. Construction is anticipated to commence within the next two months i.e. July 2015.

The first phase of the upgrade, which includes two lanes in either direction, is from the Steyn City Western entrance to the Broadacres Shopping Centre. It is envisaged that stage 2 (Broadacres Shopping Centre to One Life Hospital) will follow immediately thereafter.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish all Fathers a very happy Father’s Day on Sunday 21 June.

Until next time!
We started off with a bang which slid sideways, completely off the track, and here we are again, dusted off and moving on with life. It is a tale of uncertainty in the market place. It seems unbelievable that the buyers market still prevails, with many serious buyers putting pen to paper. However, the sellers seem to be completely unsure of what to do. They are hanging onto their properties in a bizarre turn of events, despite the low annual return over the past several years. Here, today, there is an opportunity to offload and sellers are either sticking to their desired prices or withdrawing their properties from the market. I am sure other agents have a similar tale to tell. I have had approximately R65 million worth of offers that have not been concluded over the past two months. Despite this, we have managed to sell in excess of R26 million in the past three months. I have no explanation for the current market other than the uncertainty most people are feeling right now. It also costs a lot of money to move and upgrade or downscale in these areas and the average buyer and seller needs in excess of R1.2 million in cash to make it happen. So, is it the financial pinch, or is it just a "wait and see" market?

If it is any consolation, a property in Dainfern that sold on the golf course has just been completely demolished, simply razed to the ground. As long as we have these positive buyers around who believe in their investment, I am happy to go with the flow... if you are waiting to sell now is the time!

Please go onto our website and view all our new properties that span from Fourways Gardens through to Dainfern.

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The implications of Customary Marriages within the transfer and registration process:

A civil marriage is a marriage contracted under the Marriage Act 25 of 1961 and the Matrimonial Act 88 of 1984, whereby a man can only have one wife. Customary marriages differ as a man is able to marry more than one wife. The Recognition of Customary Marriages Act 120 of 1998 created clarity on the obligations and rights of spouses in a customary marriage.

In a civil marriage, the proprietary regime is defined in the relevant legislation allowing the legal consequences to be clearly defined as either in community of property, out of community of property with accrual or without accrual. However, proprietary consequences of customary marriages were not defined before the commencement of the Recognition of Customary Marriages Act.

The law prescribes that the customary marriage must comply with certain requirements and must be registered at Home Affairs within 3 months from date of the marriage. The mere fact that a customary marriage was not registered does not make the marriage invalid but in order to prove the marriage to third parties a valid marriage certificate or a court order must be provided. An affidavit signed by the spouses confirming their marriage will not suffice.

Furthermore a customary marriage (monogamous) will also be treated as marriage in community of property unless the parties have entered into an Antenuptial contract as prescribed by law.

Polygamous Customary Marriage entered into after the 15th of November 2000, in terms of Section 7 (6) of the Act, allows a husband to enter into a further customary marriage, after the commencement of the Act. An application must then be made to court for the approval of a written contract which will govern the proprietary consequences of his marriages. Upon approval in terms of Section 7 (4) and / or Section 7 (6) of the Act, the court will submit a certified copy of the contract and an interdict will be recorded in the Deeds Office, against the parties of such marriages.

Should the husband enter into a third or further marriage, he will again have to apply to court and the new contract will take precedent over any previous contracts. All existing interdicts will be uplifted and will be superseded by the new interdict recorded against the concerned parties.

Questions for next month’s issue can be emailed to chrisna@richeattorneys.co.za.

For assistance in any property transfer matters kindly contact me on details below:

**Chrisna Riche**
Attorney/Conveyancer/Notary
(LLB, UPE)

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Cosy Ideas for Winter Decorating

As temperatures outside drop, it’s time to bring some warmth back into your home.

As the sun is muffled by grey clouds and crisp cold winds there is no better place than home; tucked warmly in bed or snuggled on a couch.

Grateful for the privilege of a safe warm space, we feather our nests with all that is comfortable and enjoyable to make the most of the time spent indoors.

Here are some winter-wise décor tips that will appeal to the sense as we ready for the cold months.

See through winter

The power of colour to influence how we feel is not to be understated, by creating a warm colour palette or accessorising an existing theme with the right colours, you can evoke a sense of comfort and warmth.

- A neutral colour palette with touches of gold and brown are an earthy embrace that suggests steamy cups of coffee and hot chocolate.
- Bring the missed sunshine indoors with yellow, amber, pumpkin, burnt orange, reds and cinnamon.
- Rich jewel tones are a royal nod to palatial privilege and sensory indulgence.

Combine these colours to create a clever cosy space that welcomes all coming in from the cold.

Focus on the Fireplace

As temperatures dip lower, bring your focus inward by rearranging your furniture. If you have a fireplace, pull pieces in toward the centre of the room and face them toward the fireplace to create a cozy gathering spot for winter entertaining. Extra pillows and throws add warmth even without a roaring fire.

Reflective State

With the shorter days, it’s time to maximize what natural light is still available. Hanging a large mirror on a blank
stand out against dark wood furnishings. Choose accent pillows in colours and patterns that match your existing decor to ensure you don’t have to make any more decor adjustments.

**Colour Me Happy**
Avoid the winter blues by infusing your spaces with pops of cheery colour. A bright throw or a boldly patterned pillow will do the trick, and will ensure your neutral spaces don’t look stark and cold like the space outside your windows. Brightly coloured elements can also last into the spring and summer.

**Window Dressing**
Even kitchens need a little TLC during the winter months. Add bold window treatments to your kitchen windows. Bright curtains will keep your workspace feeling cheery and bright.

**Toasty Transitions**
Adding a throw instantly brings warmth to any room in your home. Place a throw on your bed, or toss one over an ottoman or a chaise to provide a toasty spot to tuck chilly toes while reading or relaxing.

**Warm Up Windows**
Everything looks better in the right light, invest in window treatments that make the most of natural light in winter, spring, summer and autumn; that give you the flexibility to choose how much sunlight and fresh air you want to invite inside.

**Shutters and blinds offer the ideal versatility for all seasons. In winter, the shutters and blinds can be opened completely to make the most of late afternoon sun and as soon as the sun is swallowed by cold winter evenings, they are closed to capture the day’s warmth inside and keep the cold out.**

**Cosy Reading Nook**
A window seat offers the perfect perch for everything from an afternoon nap to a day spent lost in a good book. Keep your window seats cosy by bulking them up with fluffy seat cushions and pillows. If space permits, use under-seat storage to house blankets for the season.

**Transitioning Pieces**
Roses say summer, but orange says autumn/winter. An arrangement of season-spanning flowers helps your space say goodbye to summer and hello to winter. Winter is the perfect time to share stories and make conversation around a fire, or to enjoy a movie or listen to your favourite music with friends and family.

Use the winter months to spend quality time with loved ones in a home that gives you a warm hug! Happy Winter Decorating!
By Karen Schaefer Louw • www.interior-decor-design.co.za

Be inspired...
Paint Ideas
Transform your Furniture, Pots, Urns and other pieces into unique works of art with these easy to follow paint techniques. Your home will exude personal charm and character.

Paint Techniques for Furniture and Pots

What you may need...

Surface Preparation
When embarking on any paint technique project it is extremely important to prepare your surfaces correctly in order to achieve a professional finish. If you are unsure as to how to prepare the surface there will always be someone to assist you at your nearest Paint and Décor store. Get your foundations right and your technique will look great.

On new surfaces be sure to use the correct primers and undercoats. Plaster, wood and metal all need different primers. A multi surface primer, such as Dulux Supergrip makes it possible to paint and technique even smooth surfaces such as tile, melamine and plastic.

On previously painted surfaces be sure to remove all loose or flaking paint. Fill any cracks or holes and spot prime or undercoat if necessary. Sound paint work needs to be clean, dry and free of dust and grease.

Glazes
Scumble Glaze is a frequently used paint technique product. It is used to create most of the broken colour effects where a diluted paint solution is washed, dragged or rubbed over a painted surface.

Scumble Glaze serves two purposes – it slows the drying time of the solution and holds any pattern that is created. When using a glaze be sure to use a good quality base coat, such as the Dekade Gold Label Sheen. This will ensure that you are able to achieve an even, smooth finish.

Most glaze mixtures consist of:
• 1 part paint (water or oil-based)
• 1 part solvent (water or turpentine)
• 1 part Scumble Glaze (water or oil-based)

Protecting your technique
For most technique projects it is possible to work entirely with water-based products and then seal with the water-based Decorator’s Varnish or Heavy Duty Acrylic Sealer. This will ensure that your technique will be fully wipeable and will withstand wear.

What you need for preparation
Scraper • Sandpaper • Crackfiller • Assorted paintbrushes, rollers and paint trays • Masking tape • Drop sheets • Mutton cloth • 10mm Paint Brush • Roller Tray Set • Tape Measure • Foam Roller • HB Pencil • 1m spirit level • Metallic Paint • Water-based decorative paint • Scumble Glaze • Water-based glaze medium Achieves decorative paint effects • Dekade Acrylic • Matt Emulsion • Dekade Gold Label Sheen.

continue on page 22
We will provide you with a different technique every month – this month’s technique:

Stonewashing...

This stone look works beautifully on pots and garden ornamentation but can also be applied on furniture pieces to achieve the washed-out French look.

The pre-tinted stoney grey glaze can be applied over a base colour to accentuate moulded detail.

What you will need

- See tools for preparation
- Base paint in Dekade Gold Label Sheen White
- Pre-mixed Smokey Glaze
- Plastic paint tray or container
- Brush for application of glaze
- Mutton cloth
- Dry, soft 75mm brush

Method

- Prepare the object with Gold Label Sheen White (or pastel colour of your choice).
- Pour the Smokey Glaze into a paint tray or plastic container.
- Apply the glaze, by brush, to a small section of your prepared object.
- While the glaze is still wet wipe over it with mutton cloth. Be careful to work in one direction and remove paint mainly from the raised areas.
- If the finish is uneven, the tips of the 75mm soft brush can be lightly brushed over the surface to soften the effect.
- You can keep wiping off glaze until you are happy with the colouring.
- The more glaze you wipe off the softer and lighter the effect will become.
- Allow the object to dry for 4-6 hours and seal with a Decorator’s varnish.

Happy Painting!
Golf News

Club Championship 2015

The annual Dainfern Club Championship took place over the 16th and 17th of May. The course was in perfect Tournament condition and greens were rolling nice and fast.

The C and B Division started early on Saturday morning and the weather was perfect for golf. Due to the Sunday field being limited to 90 players (24 C-Division and 66 A+B Divisions) the players knew they had to bring their “A” game to secure a spot for the final day.

Angelo Sarmis had a great first round, finishing on 38 points, 4 points ahead of Gerry Cloete. Geoff Hughes, Stuart Atkins and Angelo Diakides finished 6 points behind on 32 for the first round. The cut for C-division was 24.

The B-division was must closer with Clifford Thompson and Chuck Colton carding 82 gross followed by Johan Eksteen on 83 gross.

The A-division played in the afternoon when the wind played a big factor. The greens were rolling fast and tee shots had to be spot on. The top 8 were separated by 3 shots. Leader in the A-Division and overall leader was Matthew Spacey on +1 followed by Cameron Walker and Shane Martin on +2.

The overall cut on gross for the A+B Division was 96. Unfortunately not everyone made the cut and the field was limited to 90 for the Sunday.

It was a fresh and chilly start on Sunday morning. The C-division got the field started and the players knew that anybody can take the title of being Champion.

**Top:** Senior winner: Dave Meyer, Junior winner: David Meyers and C-Division winner: Gerry Cloete.

**Above:** Club Champion 2015 Matthew Spacey.
New member Albert Fernandez and Steve Daniels both finished strong both getting 37 points on the last day. Steve also won the best Stableford points for Day 2 of the Championship.

Trailing by 4 points after the first round, Gerry Cloete had to dig deep and play consistently in the final round. With rounds of 34 and 34 that was enough to claim victory over Angelo Sarmis. Results were as follows:

1. Gerry Cloete: 68 pts (34 and 34)
2. Angelo Sarmis: 68 pts c/o (38 and 30)
3. Steve Daniels: 65 pts c/o (28 and 37)

Well done to all the players and congratulations to all the winners in the C-Division.

In the A+B Divisions the competition was very close and anybody could have walked away with the top honour. Shaun Bernstein and Tim Munro both finished strong and carded 73 for the final day. Tim won the best gross for the second day. Ranked 5th on the South African Amateur rankings Matthew Spacey and overnight leader knew winning the Championship would not be walk in the park and David Meyers (ranked 12th on the SAGA rankings) would be fighting to the end to defend his title. David, playing one group ahead of Matthew, finished with a great 68 and a total of 143 (+1) for the tournament and leading by 2 shots from Matthew. After making a 28 foot birdie putt on the 17th Matthew needed an eagle to tie David. After splitting the fairway and hitting a suburb second Matthew had 9 foot left to force a play off. With the 18th green packed with spectators, Matthew made the eagle and forcing a play off with David.

The play off was a sudden death play off starting on the Par 4 10th. David went first and missed the fairway on the left hand side and his ball came to rest right behind a tree. Matthew teeing off second hit a monster of a drive and had 40m left to the flag. After playing out from behind the tree, David had his work cut out for him. After clipping the tree with his third shot, Matthew over clubbed and was left with a tricky putt off the green. Matthew left the putt short and David missed his putt for his 5. Matthew had two putts for the Championship. After running the first putt 5 foot past the hole Matthew made sure with his return and that was enough to secure the Championship.

Thank you to all the players for yet another great Club Championship.
Time to celebrate FATHERS’ DAY - 21st June

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See you up at The Valley!
Time to say goodbye

Our running club has a large membership base of expats who come to work in South Africa on contract. This is the time of year that we usually have to say “Goodbye” to many of our families who will be moving away during the international school holidays. We have enjoyed having you run with us every week. Many of you have shown great commitment and it has been wonderful to see you grow stronger and fitter every week. We will also miss all the help from the moms who come to support! We hope that you will continue running wherever you are in the world and that you will have fond memories of your days at Dainfern Running Club.
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Dainfern tennis is on an all-time high

2015 has reached its half way mark, time has certainly flown while we were having fun playing tennis. Dainfern tennis is on an all-time high. The courts are permanently busy with residents from all ages and levels.

The ladies league socials that plays on Wednesday has been such a highlight and still growing. The competitiveness are definitely coming out. It’s great to see these ladies training by themselves and arranging training doubles and singles matches. They loved the doubles league that finished the end of April. The ladies were even more inspired to improve and could not wait for the singles league that Duane started this week. The Dainfern Champs are starting in a few weeks and it will be great to see awesome tennis. Duane is taking some dainfern players on a TSA tennis tour to Nelspruit from 15 to 17 May to compete in a Tennis South Africa tournament.

The tennis calendar is very full and it is inspiring to see so many tennis players in our estate.

More players are competing on the TSA circuit, adults and juniors. Duane is always encouraging match play and guides his players to compete and which is the better tournaments to play for what age and level.

There are so much to look forward to for the second half of 2015.

Squash Update

Coaching from 4yrs old and upwards contact Pete on 084 549 7540.

1st Position in Gauteng

Congratulations to our Dainfern 9th league team which is currently placed in 1st position on the Gauteng Squash league standings. Our season runs through until September with Dainfern fielding x3 teams this year. Social squash at Dainfern continues throughout the year as well as lessons with Pete from as young as 4yrs old, special small rackets provided. See you on the courts in your clear soled shoes.
Quiz Night

Our next Quiz Night will take place on Friday, 31st July 2015 at 6:30pm at the Clubhouse.
Bookings to Laura on 011 875 0400
Confirmation by EFT
See you all there!

Sponsored by

Tel. 011 467 0721
Proudly Dainfern Lions …

All the Lions age groups are doing very well so far this season. Although we have only played an average of 3 games each in all age groups, in most cases we have come out victorious.

Our new kit featuring our sponsors Auto and General Insurance, Mark White Nissan and Contract Car and Truck Hire looks stunning.

Proudly Dainfern Lions!

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COLOURING COMPETITION WINNER

This month’s winner is
Balli (age 8)
Congratulations!

Balli, you win a R100 prize.
Please collect your prize from reception.

Proudly Dainfern Lions…

The winner will be announced monthly in In Focus and can collect their R100 prize from reception. We accept photocopies of picture. Only children 11 years and younger may enter. Entries to be submitted by the 10th June 2015 into the Dainfern Nature Association’s Box at the Clubhouse.

GOOD LUCK
Extended Office Hours
In appreciation of the fact that many of our residents are required to attend their places of work during normal office hours, the DHA is pleased to advise that as from Monday next week the office hours of both the Security Administration and Office Administration have been extended to accommodate these needs.

Please note that the provision of these extended services are at no additional cost to the either the DHA or the DCC and its members.

Dainfern Security Admin Office
The Dainfern Security Admin Office which is responsible for all Access Control requirements and finger print capturing office hours have been extended as follows:
• Weekdays from 07h00 to 18h00; and
• Saturdays from 09h00 to 12h00.
These extended office hours will be effective from Monday, 18 May 2015.

Commissioner of Oaths,
Craig Bishop and Jill Terblanche are happy to certify documents. Please contact them on 011 875 0400.

DHA Admin Office Hours
DHA Admin Office Hours will be extended as follows:-
• Weekdays from 06h30 to 17h00; and
• Saturdays from 09h00 to 12h00.

Dogs on Leashes
Please note that all dogs must be kept on a leash at all times.

Dogs and cats should be clearly tagged with owners address and telephone number. If a dog/cat is found wandering or is lost, the tag will provide immediate details for its return.
If a dog/cat is found without a tag or we are unable to get in contact with the owner, they will be placed in the kennels in Highgate Village and a fine shall be issued.

Change of Contractors Working Hours:
Please note that effective 1 July 2015 Contractors Working hours on Saturdays will change from 07.00–15h00 to 09h00–12h00.
All labour to be off the Estate 30 minutes after finishing times i.e. 12h30.
No noise generating activities will be permitted on Saturdays i.e. Compressor/Kango, heavy drilling or planeing, the pouring of slabs that require pumps or vibrators, construction equipment – TLB, Dozers, tippers etc.

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If a dog/cat is found without a tag or we are unable to get in contact with the owner, they will be placed in the kennels in Highgate Village and a fine shall be issued.

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## City Power Loadshedding Schedule for June 2015

<table>
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<th>Date</th>
<th>Stage One</th>
<th>Stage Two</th>
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Flower of the Month

Delosperma lydenburgense

Description
Delosperma lydenburgense is a small shrub or groundcover that grows flat on the ground, sometimes with curving tips, and produces small tubers from the rootstock. The leaves are usually soft and tender and highly variable in shape, from triangular to cylindrical. The purple flowers are borne from spring to summer and are followed by the fruit capsules, which have four to six locules and pale-coloured wings on the valves and no covering membrane. The leaves have a glittering appearance, protecting them against damage by the high light intensity.

Conservation status
Delosperma lydenburgense is not threatened and has a status of Least Concerned (LC) (Raimondo et al. 2009).

Distribution and habitat
Delosperma lydenburgense occurs in Lydenburg Montane Grassland in the Mpumalanga Province at about 750–2000 m. Soils here are mainly derived from quartzite, shale, lavas and dolomites. Plants are subject to occasional frost, orographic precipitation and mist for the better part of the year.

Name derivation and historical aspects
The name Delosperma is derived from the Greek words delos, which means ‘visible’, and sperma, which means ‘seed’, alluding to the fact that the capsule has no covering membrane and that the seeds are exposed when the capsule opens, and lydenburgense refers to the town Lydenburg in Mpumalanga where its natural habitat is.

Ecology
Bees have been observed as frequent visitors of the flowers. It is therefore quite possible that they are pollinators of the klipvygie.

Uses and cultural aspects
There is no record of the klipvygie being used medicinally or culturally.

In KwaZulu-Natal, other members of the genus are of significance because they are believed to bring good luck and are used as magical plants. In the horticultural industry this species is used as an ornamental.

Growing Delosperma lydenburgense var. lydenburgense
Delosperma lydenburgense is easily propagated from cuttings. Select soft, young material from a healthy plant and root in a well-draining, sandy medium. Keep the medium moist. Cuttings normally root very quickly and will flower the same season.

The plant occurs naturally in the summer rainfall area of South Africa. However, it does equally well in areas receiving winter rainfall, where it should perhaps be grown on sunny rockeries, in slightly sloping areas or as a pot plant. It also seems to do well in semishade.

The klipvygie makes for a dazzling display if grown en masse or interplanted with other colours complementary to its bright purple flowers.
Winter Gardening

The first frosts can be expected in some parts of the country this month. Keep covers handy to protect tender plants, and water the garden in the morning so that the foliage is dry before nightfall. Gardeners who are planning to plant 'bare rooted' fruit trees next month, will be well advised to start preparing the holes for them to grow.

Hardy summer flowering annuals
Water about once a week if the weather is dry and feed once a month with a liquid fertiliser to keep them growing steadily.

Winter flowering annuals
Feed twice a month with a liquid fertiliser. Remove faded flowers regularly, especially from Iceland poppies, pansies.
WIN
A Garden Voucher

One lucky resident will stand the chance to win a garden voucher worth R250.00.

How to enter:
All you need to do is answer the question below & send your details by to cobbie@global.co.za (Ref: Garden Voucher) or place entries into the Dainfern Nature Association box at the Clubhouse by 12th June 2015.

Draw will take place on 15th June 2015. Winner will be contacted thereafter.

Question:
What is the name of the Flower of the month in this issue of In Focus?

Competition Entry Form
Name: ......................................................
................................................................
Address: ....................................................
................................................................
Tel: ............................................................
Email: ........................................................
Answer: ......................................................

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Gardening
continued from page 46

and violas. Water during dry weather, doing this in the morning in areas that experience frost.

Sweet peas: If the margins of the leaves are turning pale brown and papery it is a sign of potassium deficiency. There are two ways to correct this. Dissolve either 1 level tablespoon of potassium sulphate, or 2 heaped tablespoons of 3.1.5, in 5 litres of water and apply to a metre of row every two weeks. Water before and after application.

Tie the plants on to the trellis regularly. Remove side shoots and tendrils, and water copiously once or even twice a week. Once the plants start flowering pick the blooms frequently to encourage them to produce more and more.

Perennials
Paonies: Prepare the ground for planting new plants or the transplanting. They do best in rich, friable, slightly alkaline soil. If the pH of the soil is below 6.5 apply a light dressing of lime (just enough to make the surface of the soil white.)

Keep the ground mulched with compost.

Bulbs
All bulbous plants (including white evergreen arums): As soon as the buds appear start feeding every two weeks with a liquid fertiliser. Water copiously once a week when the weather is dry, especially in the summer rainfall areas.

Convallaria (lily of the valley): Lift and divide if the plants are becoming overcrowded.

Liliums: In the summer rainfall areas water liliums once a month as they are never completely dormant.

Tulips: Inspect plants for aphids, which tend to hide in the crevices of the leaves.

Pot Plants
Amaryllis, achimenes, tuberous rooted begonias and caladiums: Sprinkle lightly with water from time to time to prevent the soil becoming bone dry.

Continue to feed calceolaria, cinerarias, cyclamen, daffodils, hyacinths, jonquils, narcissi, poinsentias and primulas every two weeks with liquid fertiliser and water every two or three days.

Discontinue feeding other pot plants if this has not yet been done. Water less frequently, but never let the plants especially ferns, orchids and phidodendrons, become completely dry.

Gardening
continued from page 46

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Tree of the Month

Pittosporum viridiflorum Sims

www.plantzafrica.com/plantnop/pittosporumvirid.htm

Family name: Pittosporaceae
Common name: Cheeseewood (E), Kasuur (A), umVusamvu (Z)

This evergreen tree was selected to be one of the Trees of the Year for 2002. Pittosporum viridiflorum varies in size from a shrub of about 4m in height to a large forest tree of up to 30m. The bark is pale brown to greyish with distinctive white dots (lenticels). The leaves are usually wider above the middle, dark green and glossy. Small, greenish-white, sweetly fragrant flowers are produced in early summer (November to December). They are followed by small, yellow-brown seed capsules. This plant is very showy when the capsules split open to release numerous small, shiny, orange-red seeds, which are covered in a sticky, resinous exudate. This cheesewood is often confused with the white milkwood (Sideroxylon inerme).

The name is derived from “Pitta” = pitch and “sporum” = seed (referring to the sticky seeds); and viridiflorum = with green flowers.

Many birds, including the red-eyed dove and several starlings eat the seeds. Goats and game (Kudu, Nyala, and Bushbuck) browse the leaves. The stem bark, which has a bitter taste and strong resinous or liquorice smell, is used medicinally. Decoctions or infusions are widely used to treat stomach complaints, abdominal pain and fever. It is said to ease pain and have a calming effect. Dried, powdered root or bark is sometimes added to beer as an aphrodisiac.
Fairy Flycatcher

*Stenostira scita*

One of the most interesting visitors to Dainfern Estate is the diminutive Fairy Flycatcher. This bird only makes its way into the northern part of the country, including the Highveld, during the winter months.

At other times it is found in the high lying parts of the Karoo, where it breeds. In Dainfern it is particularly partial to areas with Acacia trees and can be seen in those areas of the estate where stands of these trees are present from about May to August, but it will also make its way into well treed gardens.

The Fairy Flycatcher's plumage is a combination of pale grey, white and black, with a slight pink flush on the white breast that can be seen at close quarters. The bird is only 11-12cm in length. It makes a distinctive high pitched ‘tchee-tchee-tchee’ whistle, often the only indication of its presence as this is an unobtrusive species.

It is unusual amongst the flycatchers and is the only member of the genus Stenostira. For long the bird was considered to be a warbler rather than a flycatcher, not least because of its habits of restlessly leaf gleaning amongst the leaves and twigs of trees for insects, rather than hawking birds from a perch as many other flycatchers do. It makes a typical cup-shaped nest, which is well concealed in a tree or shrub, with the female laying two or three greenish eggs. But all breeding efforts happen south of our region as the bird is strictly a winter visitor here.

The Fairy Flycatcher is one of our country’s finest and most unusual endemic species and we are fortunate to have it in our midst at certain times during the year. It will continue to be here for as long as we preserve those areas in the estate that harbour the trees that it depends upon, particularly areas on the estate that have Acacia trees.
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