




STANFORD CONSERVATION

!! STANFORD CONSERVATION TURNS 30 !!

It all started in 1991 when the then Stanford Municipality decided to create an industrial area in the sensitive wetland area south from the R43. Residents were up in arms because of the disregard of environmental concerns and decided it was time to protect the natural beauty and unique character of Stanford – and so Stanford Conservation was established in 1992.

 Join us on Thursday **22 September 2022** at **17:30 for 18:00** in the **Okkie Smuts School Hall** to meet and listen to one of the organisation's founding members (which may come as a surprise to some). Many of the amazing volunteers who dedicated their time to improve Stanford over these 30 years will also share their stories on how they created and still maintain the Wandelpad, Heritage Committee, Swop Shop and the Stanford Revitalisation Plan. Without them Stanford would not have become the desirable place everyone wants to live in today.

We would really like to share our story with all of Stanford. Members are invited to this festive function (drinks and snacks will be served). Anyone interested in becoming a member is also more than welcome to join the SCA at R200/year, either before the time or at the door on the evening. Please contact Liz Macmillan on stanfordconservation1992@gmail.com no later than 15 September 2022 should you wish to attend the function, so we know how many people to cater for.

PS: The festivities will be preceded by a short Annual General Meeting from 17:00 – 17:30 (see page 9 of this newsletter). By now all members should have received the notification and applicable documentation. Please contact Liz if you have not yet received any correspondence.



What would we do without T&D

The month-end Thursday Think & Drink quiz evenings are getting more popular by the month. In March, for example, there was a record 92 participants! A wonderful addition is the number of 'youngsters' attending and bringing a whole new dimension to the questions asked – and, of course, the 'vibe'.

A huge thank you to Marian Binder-Williams and Simon Upton who are the coordinators for the evening. Apart from having to find a quizmaster and do the seating arrangements, there is also the negotiations with the Birkenhead Brewery regarding the menu options for the evening.



Everyone contributes R50/night towards the SCA, and specifically the Wandelpad maintenance. Depending on the number of participants, the SCA receives about R3 500/night – which is one of the reasons we could get die 'bossieslander' to mow down the reeds (article elsewhere in this newsletter).

Apart from receiving a notice via Marian's email list, the evenings are advertised on the Stanford Notice Board and the 7210 Stanford General WhatsApp group.

THANK YOU **Build it** GANSBAAI

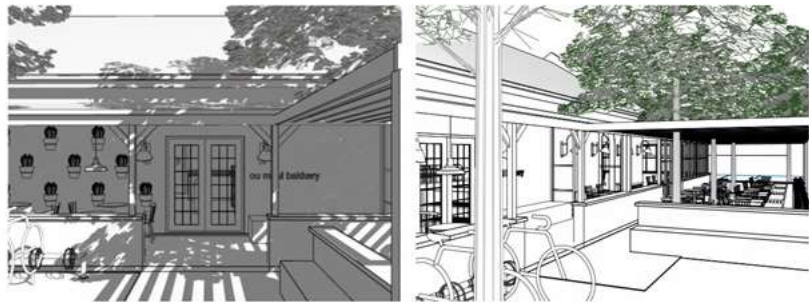
One of T&D's success stories is the number of 'youngsters' who are T&D's biggest supporters. In February, the new owners of the Stanford SPAR, Clayton and Dylan Burger (sons of one of the owners of Gansbaai Build It), matched the income for the evening. These funds were used to provide irrigation to the R43 traffic circle and labour for planting the donated agapanthus (thank you Irene Thomlison) on the traffic islands.



Successful Heritage and Development Collaboration - Ou Meul

One of the first things a visitor sees when entering Stanford from the new circle on the R43 is the bustling and inviting Ou Meul – now one of the major reasons for day-trippers, road-trippers, cyclists, and bikers to stop and explore our beautiful village.

The recent upgrades have greatly contributed to this welcoming first impression of Stanford, and this satisfactory result can be attributed to a collaborative effort between the Ou Meul team and the Stanford Heritage Committee (SHC).



View towards entrance from Queen Victoria Street

Most of the suggested upgrades on the initial plans submitted by Ou Meul to the SHC were acceptable. However, there were a few important elements, such as the entrance to Ou Meul, that required a revisit to ensure compliance with the principles of the revitalisation plan for the Queen Victoria Street Precinct*. The SHC explained their concerns and the reasons, as well as provided the Ou Meul team with valuable suggestions and insights. This helped ensure that the adjusted plans upheld the long-term vision of the village's revitalisation plan*.

This plan, which was developed by Stanford Conservation, was accepted by the Overstrand Municipality in 2014. It is a long-term strategy that, among other things, strives to ensure a welcoming first impression of Stanford's unique historical character. Further aims include pedestrian-friendly building frontages with wide sidewalks in Queen Victoria Street, covered stoeps and beautiful trees. It is thus important to ensure that any changes to buildings and the surrounding areas in Queen Victoria Street are done sympathetically and according to its principles.

For more information on the revitalisation plan, please visit www.stanfordconservationtrust.org.za/stanford-revitalisation-plan/



TREES FOR BEES



Did you know that honey bees pollinate over 30% of the food we eat? They are important to the production of more than 60 crops in South Africa. These include deciduous fruit, subtropical fruit, nuts, berries, melons, oilseed crops, fodder crops like Lucerne, and many seed crops. Some crops are almost totally dependent on our honey bees, such as carrot seed, onion seed, pears and berries. Driven by our demand for more foodstuffs that honey bees pollinate, we will need to almost double our bee population over the next 10 years.

However... bees need food as well. If you want to 'bee' friendly, consider planting the following trees that thrive in our area and are very good for both pollen and nectar:

Camphor Bush (*Tarchonanthus camphoratus*): A small tree with a camphor smell. Both males and female plants supply nectar which supplies wild bee colonies with winter stores. It is a main pollen source in autumn.

Cheesewood (*Pittosporum viridiflorum* [top picture]): Small to medium-size tree with sweetly scented tubular, light yellow small flowers just wide enough for bees to reach the nectar. (Not to be confused with the invasive *Pittosporum undulatum* which has wavy leaves [second picture] and which is found in many Stanford gardens.)



Hard Pear (*Olinia ventosa*): Small short flower tubes, cream-coloured to pink and sweetly scented.

White Pear (*Apodytes dimidiata*): Good pollen source. It is of interest that the small, white scented flowers are visited by bees for one hour only – before and after sunrise.



Wild Peach (*Kiggelaria africana*). One of Stanford's fastest-growing trees. Nectar is gathered throughout the day. Bees usually gather pollen in the morning and nectar in the afternoon.

For more information, please visit: [Trees for Bees Species List - The Bee Effect \(bee-effect.co.za\)](http://bee-effect.co.za)



'Klapping' the reeds

King Street:

Cutting down the reeds on the riverbank, an action that does NOT require environmental authorisation, is a costly exercise – until SCA got to know about a 'bossieslaner' powerful enough to mow the reeds and simultaneously mulch the reeds into a layer that will suppress reed growth for a while.



Organised by Butch Zeederberg, Mark Erwee and the tractor arrived on 22 April and within 3 hours a huge area was cut. It did cost the SCA almost R3 000, but it is much cheaper than manual labour! With regular mowing to curtail reed growth, the area will soon add to the beauty of the Wandelpad – and show that Stanford borders a river and not a reed bed!

Phragmitis australis, although important for removing nutrients from the river, can become invasive and need to be controlled to fulfil its role effectively. It should be cut regularly (or

chomped by hippo's, goats or cattle) for it to actively remove nutrients. Dead reeds release their nutrients back into the soil, leaching back into the river!



Before (left) & after (right)

Other areas are also being targeted by manual labour:



Footpath between Adderley and Sannie Badenhorst Streets (left)

Swimming area top end of village (right)





Life after COVID

Apart from Covid, the high water table along the river seriously hampered the upkeep of the Wandelpad section from Quick to Sannie Badenhorst Street. However, during the past month SCA employed the service of Ernest Chicomo, and great progress has been made. Lots still needs to be done, but a start has been made:



ABOVE: Shrubs plagued by cochineal scale bugs were cut down and removed from site



LEFT: New steps made at the 2nd Sannie Badenhorst pathway to the Wandelpad, and now used at least once/week as part of the Hermanus Camino Walk



LEFT: New logs (kindly donated by R43 roadworks team) to replace rotten logs....



RIGHT: Opening up new areas and resting space for Wandelpad walkers



Keeping the Stanford Style – yes, or no?

The charm of Stanford lies in the fact that there is a Stanford Style – which basically is that all building features such as windows and doors have vertical alignments – not square or horizontal. A specific Stanford Style booklet was compiled by SCA in 2007 (latest update July 2019) and has over the years been made available to estate agents and architects/draughtsmen. Since 2019 it is available online for any homeowner not sure how to go about improving their home and simultaneously maintaining the architectural style that suits the period in which the house was built (<https://www.stanfordconservationtrust.org.za/wp-content/uploads/2019/08/stanford-style-2019.pdf>.)

The past year has seen several renovations and upgrades to homes in the historical core of Stanford. Many owners and architects use this opportunity to either improve on unsympathetic renovations done typically in the 1970s and 1980s. Great effort is made to match (albeit with modern materials) the original Stanford Style windows and doors, and (if so desired) to open the veranda on the street frontage as was the design of the early 1900s when the houses were built. Here are two examples (of many) where the restoration took the original design features into consideration.



Others have decided to retain the 1970-style features (left) vs the style which suits the architecture of the 1920s when the house was built (right).

If you are not sure whether your ideas fit into the Stanford Style, please make an appointment with the Stanford Heritage Committee who offer their services free of charge to the community.





Stanford tree poisoning a great concern



The SCA was alerted to this deliberate poisoning of the magnificent trees in Shortmarket Street between Quick and Adderley. This took place around the weekend of 21 May 2022. All trees targeted are more than 15 metres tall and 60 years old. The photographs clearly show the holes drilled into the trees, which was then filled with some plug/ poison that has killed the trees.



Anyone who has any knowledge of this abominable action is requested to contact Liz Macmillan on stanfordconservation1992@gmail.com.

Let's rest our bums

A few simple benches have been placed along the Wandelpad, thanks to Neil Eberhardt and last year's flood. Paddling along, Neil would collect pieces of wood washed down the river, take them home and upcycle them into these lovely places to rest and enjoy the diverse views along the Wandelpad. Two more memorial benches give Wandelpad users the opportunity to rest their bums: one below Tony Richardson's house and the other at Mountain View.



Heritage needs your help

Do you love Stanford's rich architectural heritage, and would you like for it to retain its status as one of the three best preserved historical villages in the Western Cape? The Stanford Heritage Committee is looking for new (volunteer) members to help preserve the village's unique atmosphere or can offer secretarial services and can spare one afternoon a month for a meeting. Please contact Liz Hochfelden on stanfordheritage@gmail.com if you have a passion for the built environment.



Join the AGM – 22 September 2022

Okkie Smuts School Hall
17:00 – 17:30
R200 membership/year (payable at the door)
!! To be followed by the celebration of 30 years of conservation in Stanford !!
(18:00 – 20:00)

SWOP SHOP



Twice a month recyclable plastic, tins and paper are brought to the Swop Shop and exchanged for tokens which allows the people to 'buy' goods in the shop. Stationary is top of the list, with dog food being an every-day need.





Please be kind to us?

The Swop Shop is in desperate need of



dog food donations. Please contact Truda Wepener on 066-527-3040 if you would like to assist or buy a bag next time you are at the Agri from where it will be collected. This is a wonderful way in which the environment is kept clean and are rewarded by being able to purchase goods!

SCA Contact Details

-  stanfordcoservation1992@gmail.com
-  stanford conservation
-  (for donations and new membership): Stanford Conservation; Nedbank Hermanus; Savings Account 238-300-1805
-  www.stanfordconservationtrust.org.za