

15th - 17th May 2008  
Southern Cross School, Hoedspruit



# SUSTAINABLE LIVING Festival



## INTRODUCING THE FIRST FESTIVAL OF ITS KIND IN THE LOWVELD

**NESTLED** between two of South Africa's most renowned Natural Heritage sites, The Kruger National Park (associated with the biggest private land area under conservation in the world) and the Blyde Canyon live a number of communities that realized that they have a more than usual responsibility towards their environment – but also a unique opportunity to jointly embrace ecosystem friendly sustainable development. This responsibility and unique opportunity led to the creation of the Kruger to

Canyons (K2C) Biosphere Region (ratified by UNESCO in 2001).

As a recently discovered jewel of South Africa, development is occurring at an **accelerated**, and at times, **out of control** rate. Therefore the education and creation of awareness of **sustainable principles and ethics** within the region are of utmost importance.

Additionally, Looking after our natural environment is no longer a cause simply for the conservation minded. In fact, it may become the only way to ensure a good quality of life in the future, with access to sufficient water, secure food supplies, good health and ultimately even our own survival. It is each individual's responsibility to make the lifestyle and consumer choices to reduce our personal contribution to the causes of climate change and global warming.

With this in mind, Bushveld Connections, together with the Kruger to Canyons Biosphere will be hosting the first of an annual **Sustainable Living Festival**.

The Festival will be held over the weekend of the 15th – 17th May 2008. These dates have been selected to coincide with an **International Biodiversity Day** to be funded by KfW and MRDP-GTZ (Mpumalanga Rural Development, funded by GTZ) and Geo-media (an international media company) and hosted by Kruger to Canyons Biosphere.

## Kruger to Canyons Biosphere Region

### *South Africa's 4<sup>th</sup> UNESCO Registered Biosphere*

A BIOSPHERE RESERVE, or as we prefer to refer to it - as a Region, is a special place where people and organisations have made a commitment to live and work in harmony with nature. The people living in these areas are figuring out – and demonstrating – how to achieve a sustainable balance between conserving natural ecosystems and biodiversity while at the same time fostering sound economic development.

There are currently 4 Biosphere Regions established within South Africa, of which the Kruger to Canyons is the largest (and currently the 3<sup>rd</sup> largest in the world).

Biosphere Regions are designated by UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation) to demonstrate innovative approaches to living and working in harmony with nature.

The reserves or regions are **not** places **set aside** from human use and development as is often the case with traditional Nature Reserves – but rather, human activity and the health of people and communities are in fact, an integral part of the biosphere program. Nor does the UNESCO label bring with it any new authorities over land, water or resources. The existing powers, rights and responsibilities of governments, businesses and landowners normally remain unchanged and in the hands of the owners or managers at that time, thus in short – a Biosphere Region highlights a special area within the environment where people have made a commitment to work together for a sustainable future.

K2C Biosphere Region received UNESCO registration in October 2001. It is situated in the NE section of the country and includes 2 of SA's key tourism hotspots – namely the Kruger National Park and the Blyde River Canyon as well as one of the leading international floral hotspots, the Wolkberg Region. The current boundaries of K2C extend from the Letaba River in the North to the Sabi River in the South and the Blyde Escarpment in the West to the Mozambique border in the East.

This give a total of 2 474 700 Ha (Two million, four hundred and seventy four thousand, seven hundred Hectares), in which, on average there are approximately 1 ½ million people living.

This extensive geographical region, together with the large number of residents within the region, all adds up to a very colourful, a very active and a very diverse area, filled with just as colourful, active and diverse people and organisations.

The Kruger to Canyons Biosphere has grown very slowly in the initial years but has been progressing in leaps and bounds in the last 2 years.

The K2C has also come a long way in creating partnership and unity with the various stakeholders within the region as well as in creating and encouraging a unified and shared vision for all land users and stakeholders within the K2C

## PROGRAMME

### Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> May 2008

- 09h00 K2C AGM Opens
- 10h00 Exhibitions Open
- 12h00 Workshop 1 Farming for the Future – soil, health, fertility and sustainability (Alan Rosenberg) @ school resource centre
- 13h00 Workshop 2 Farming for the Future – Fair Trade in Agriculture (Andrew Charman) @ school resource centre
- 13h30 Workshop 3 Farming for the Future – creature friendly (Donald Strydom) @ school resource centre
- 14h00 Public Meeting - Ethanol Project
- 18h00 Exhibition Closes
- 19h00 Star Gazing & Marshmallow Braai – experience the stars in a portable planetarium

### Friday 16<sup>th</sup> May 2008

- 10h00 Exhibition Opens
- 11h00 Workshop 1 Fair Trade & Tourism – how it can benefit your lodge (Lisa Scriven) @ school resource centre
- 12h00 Workshop 2 "Creature Friendly" dealing with reptiles in the lodge @ school resource centre
- 13h00 Workshop 3 Sustainable Development – Building for the future (Andy Horn – Eco Building Designs) @ school resource centre
- 14h00 Open Africa Meeting
- 15h30 Chefs for Chefs Event
- 17h00 Start of International B-Day Monitoring (night sites)
- 18h00 Exhibition Closes
- 19h00 Organic Cheese & Wine presentation (@ high school)
- 19h30 Mango Groove Live Concert

### Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> May 2008

- 07h00 Start of Adventure Race
- 08h00 Continuation of Biodiversity Day Monitoring
- 09h00 Opening of Exhibition Area
- 11h00 Workshop 1 - Green Gardening (Hennie Eksteen) @ Earth Circle
- 15h00 Completion of Biodiversity Monitoring and return to festival grounds
- 16h00 Report back from Biodiversity Day Monitoring



# THE NEED FOR SUSTAINABLE LIVING

With the increase in temperatures around the globe and the magnitude of natural disasters occurring on a global level, our planet is telling us something.....

**Live Sustainably and protect our earth's resources - THEY ARE LIMITED!!!**

Sustainable Living involves a myriad of new and old concepts, all designed to not only lighten our footprint on this earth, but to also re-encourage and re-establish a sense of community and caring for those living alongside us. It is all about a healthy balance – a balance between man and nature, environment and community, conservation and development.

While it is often written that sustainability should be purely about ecology, it can also be argued that a more holistic approach is vital, particularly in developing countries where development and strengthening of the economic potential is important. Thus a crucial aspect, which South Africa cannot afford to ignore, is social responsibility – including community welfare and social upliftment.

Additionally the turn to more “sustainable living” is not necessarily the responsibility of all major businesses and industries, but can be done in large and small ways but individuals, residential communities and all levels of organizations. We are all responsible for reducing our ecological footprint as much as we possibly can.

Our Ecological Footprint can be described as a tool for determining if our lifestyles are sustainable. One of the tools used is through the “One Planet Living” concept, whereby the amount of land that is required for you as an individual to live the type of lifestyle you currently live, is calculated across that planet that should everyone live in the same manner, just how many planets would be required to keep the entire current human population alive. The average family will be most surprised to discover they are living a “5 planet” existence. This means that should each and every person on this earth live in the same manner, we would need at least 5 planets of earth's equivalent to sustain them all.

To Calculate your Ecological Footprint see [www.oneplanetliving.org](http://www.oneplanetliving.org)



## SUSTAINABLE LIVING FESTIVAL WORKSHOPS

Throughout the Festival, there will be a number of workshops offered each focusing on a different sustainable aspect and sector per day.

We invite and welcome any interested parties to attend the workshops. The workshops are at no additional cost, but are included in the daily festival entrance fee charge (R30 per adult per day).

### THURSDAY 15<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2008 – Southern Cross Resource Centre

- 12h00 Workshop 1 **Farming for the Future – soil, health, fertility and sustainability** (Alan Rosenberg)
- 13h00 Workshop 2 **Farming for the Future – Fair Trade in Agriculture** (Andrew Charman)
- 13h30 Workshop 3 **Farming for the Future – creature friendly** (Donald Strydom)

### FRIDAY 16<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2008 – Southern Cross Resource Centre

- 11h00 Workshop 1 **Fair Trade & Tourism – how it can benefit your lodge** (Lisa Scriven)
- 12h00 Workshop 2 **“Creature Friendly” dealing with reptiles in the lodge, home or business** (Donald Strydom)
- 13h00 Workshop 3 **Sustainable Development – Building for the future** (Andy Horn – Eco Building Designs)

### SATURDAY 17<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2008 – Festival “Earth Circle”

- 11h00 Workshop 1 - **Green Gardening** (Hennie Eksteen)
- 12h30 Workshop 2 - **Live Reptile Demonstration** (Donald Strydom)
- 15h00 Workshop 3 - **Sustainable Design tips for your home** (Andy Horn)



## Workshop Presenters



ADVISORS IN BIOLOGICAL AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENTAL SYSTEMS.

### ALAN ROSENBERG

Alan Rosenberg, from Lindros Whole Earth Consultants has had a long career in Agriculture and has studied bio-dynamic agriculture in the UK. He has since been involved in a number of organic and biodynamic projects in SA over the years and more recently has established LINDROS Whole Earth Consultants with his partner Thomas Linders.

He has published 2 books – the first “Organic Agriculture – A Handbook” and the 2<sup>nd</sup> “Global Health in Crisis, The Answer lies in the Soil”.

In 2007, he was awarded a “Master Mentor” certificate by the National Dept of Agriculture.

### ANDREW CHARMAN

Andrew Charman is an independent consultant and economist based in the Cape who has been very instrumental in assisting the Limpopo LED (Local Economic Development) Department

in establishing fair trade practices and projects in the Limpopo developmental regions.



### DONALD STRYDOM

Donald Strydom one of Hoedspruit's long term conservation based residents. He has owned and managed the Khamai (formerly Swadini) Reptile park for over 20 years.

He is considered one of the leading herpetologists in the country and his skill and knowledge are sought by film crews and scientists from around the world.



### LISA SCRIVEN

Lisa Scriven represents FTSA ( Fair Trade and Tourism SA). FTSA

encourages and publicizes fair and responsible business practices by South African tourism establishments.

### HENNIE EKSTEEN

Hennie is an organic farmer based in Graskop and is renown for his knowledge and use of earthworms in commercial and home usage. He is an acclaimed speaker, having given courses in SA and overseas



### ANDY HORN

Andy Horn graduated from the University of Cape Town and has built up experience

in the field of ecological design. While encompassing an holistic vision, his special focus has always been on the use of local, natural, non-toxic and recycled materials such as stone, clay, sand, straw, reeds, thatch, cob, compressed earth, bottles, poles etc

In 1998, he founded Eco Design out of a life-long concern for the rapidly degrading natural environment and widening social inequalities.

Andy Horn has lectured widely at conferences and has held a part time environmental lecturing post at UCT's department of Architecture.

Eco Design's cutting edge sustainable solutions have been widely published both locally and internationally and have earned them the *2004 Sustainable Building Best Practice award for Residential Projects in the Africa Region* and the *Silver Holcim Award for Sustainable Construction in Africa and the Middle East 2005*.

*Earth is worth saving... It's the only planet that has chocolate!*



# K2C BIOSPHERE SELECTED AS SITE FOR INTERNATIONAL BIODIVERISTY DAY FOCUS

International Biodiversity Day is celebrated all over the world and it aims to raise awareness and to celebrate of the importance of local biodiversity. This publicity event has been initiated by GEO magazine.

The theme of the International Day for Biological Diversity (IBD) on 22 May 2008 will be **Biodiversity and Agriculture**. The topic reflects the importance of the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity to food security, nutrition and human well-being. It also highlights the importance of agriculture to biodiversity and sustainable development. "Biodiversity and Agriculture" has been chosen to coincide with one of the main topics of the agenda of the ninth meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP9) [www.cbd.int/cop9](http://www.cbd.int/cop9) to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) in May 2008 in Bonn, Germany.

The combination of Biodiversity and Agriculture offers an opportunity to explore the ways that conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity can be met, while ensuring equity and benefit sharing. Biosphere reserves are flagship examples to showcase this approach towards sustainable development - in particular the **Kruger to Canyons (K2C) Biosphere** containing a unique pattern of protected areas, agricultural landscapes and cultures in the Savannah and escarpment regions of South Africa, in particular the Limpopo and Mpumalanga Provinces.

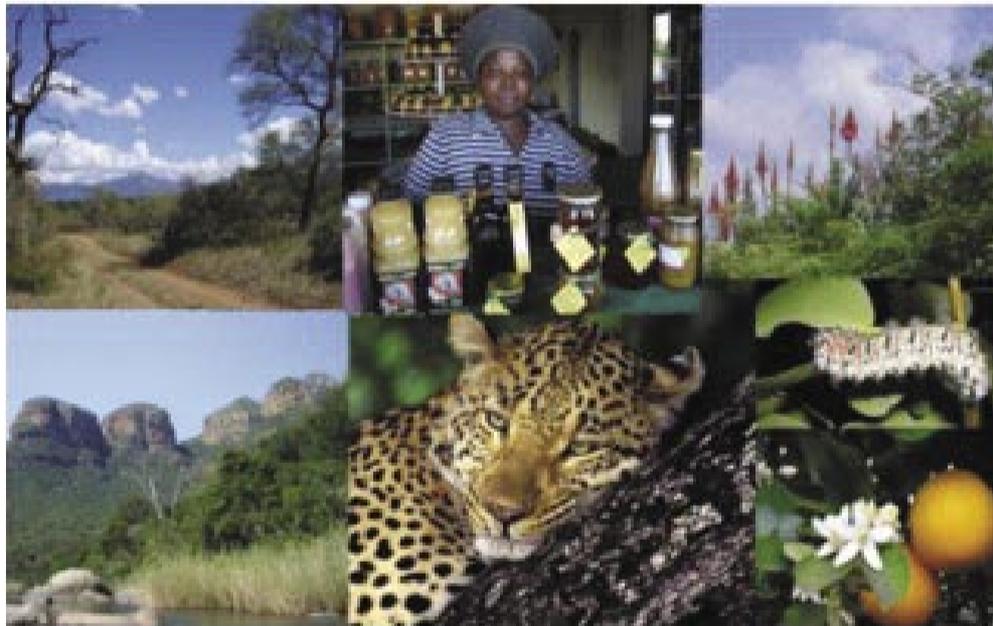
To promote the Biosphere as an engine for sustainable regional development the *International Biodiversity Day 2008* takes place in K2C on 17<sup>th</sup> of May 2008 - embedded in a *Sustainable Living Festival*. As the IBD will take place immediately before COP it is planned to link the activities in K2C (local) directly with the CBD celebrations on *International Day for Biological Diversity in Bonn (global)*.

The general objective of the K2C IBD is

to increase public and policy awareness for the (regional) Biodiversity and the concept of the Biosphere as a possible driver for an environmentally sound regional development. The exceptional variety of landscapes and ecosystems under different management regimes in the K2C region make it ideal to focus the IBD activities on exploring and explaining:

- The interface between **Biodiversity and Agriculture**, and;
- **Ecosystem services** (e.g. water provisioning, climate regulation, purification)

The main activity will be an **action-oriented inventory** of the biological diversity and the ecological quality of the region. **22 different observation groups**, comprising of scientists, pupils, kids, laymen, politicians, media and local community members are requested to monitor in depth flora and fauna at each of the 22 different identified sites covering the K2C region. These results will then be presented at a report back session during the Festival in Saturday afternoon. All are welcome to listen in.



## MANGO GROOVE

# In the Bush

FRIDAY NIGHT  
16TH MAY  
SOUTHERN CROSS SCHOOL  
HOEDSPRUIT  
19H00 FOR 19H30

*What does our ecosystem do for us, and what can we do for our ecosystem?*

**MANGO GROOVE'S** career has spanned an exciting and turbulent time in South Africa's history. Since its first iconic multi-platinum release in 1989, the band, together with its charismatic lead singer Claire Johnston, has gone on to become a household name in South Africa. To date, Mango Groove has sold over 750 000 albums in South Africa alone, and in terms of its airplay across all radio and TV stations, continues to be an act that truly reaches the hearts of all South Africans

**Come Groove with MANGO GROOVE**

We are very happy to announce that they will be giving their first "Concert in the Bush" during the festival.

Tickets are available beforehand at R200 per person - either at *Desperate Housewives* in Hoedspruit or they can be booked via email through [festival@hoedspruit.co.za](mailto:festival@hoedspruit.co.za).

## GALA DINNER

Saturday Night 17<sup>th</sup> May

All results from the B-Day will be presented at a Gala Dinner on Saturday Night and will include Key Note Addresses by Deputy Minister of Enviro Affairs and Prof Niekisch - leading scientist in Biodiveristy from Frankfurt, Germany . All are welcome to join - dinner tickets available @ R150 per person.

## Why is Biodiversity Important?

The variety of life on Earth, its biological diversity is commonly referred to as biodiversity. The number of species of plants, animals, and micro-organisms, the enormous diversity of genes in these species, the different ecosystems on the planet, such as deserts, rainforests and coral reefs are all part of a biologically diverse Earth. Appropriate conservation and sustainable development strategies attempt to recognize this as being integral to any approach. Almost all cultures have in some way or form recognized the importance that nature and its biological diversity has had upon them and the need to maintain it.

Yet, power, greed and politics have

affected the precarious balance. But why is Biodiversity important? Does it really matter if there aren't so many species?

Biodiversity actually boosts ecosystem productivity where each species, no matter how small, all have an important role to play and that it is this combination that enables the ecosystem to possess the ability to prevent and recover from a variety of disasters. This is obviously useful for mankind as a larger number of species of plants means more variety of crops and a larger number of species of animals ensure that the ecosystem is naturally sustained.

## STARGAZING AND NIGHT SKY WONDERS

Come and join us at Southern Cross School on Thursday night in a "portable planetarium" to learn about the skies and the myriad of stars that watch down on us nightly.



Entrance into the planetarium is R30 per person. Tickets available at Southern Cross School

**REAL LOWVELD MANGO GROOVERS**

Thanks To the following people and companies that have made the Mango Groove Concert Possible

**AIR TRAVEL MAX**

**KRUGER 2 CANYON**  
NEWS

**SLEEPERS**  
Restaurant & Pub

**JORDAN PROPERTIES**  
(Pty) Ltd.

**Bushveld Connections**  
EVENT CO-ORDINATORS  
082 9400 651

# EXHIBITORS

The following list of exhibitors will be showcasing their products and projects at the Sustainable Living Festival



## FESTIVAL SUPPORTERS



## PROPERTY PROJECTS



Laeveld Bouhandelaars



## GREAT NORTH TRANSPORT

Dont miss out!!

## ADVENTURE RACE

Challenge your Adventurous Spirit with the Sustainable Living Festival Adventure Race being held on the morning of Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> May. The Race will start at the Blyde Adventure Camp and from there will follow a course taking you through the many wonderful aspects of the K2C Biosphere Region, from the bottom of the Escarpment through to the lower lying region, covering agricultural farms, game farms and wildlife estates. The course is designed to appeal to the novice and adventure enthusiast while also giving a fun challenge to the day. Teams will comprise of 6 members per team of which 4 will be active participants and 2 will be support crew – meeting the racers at each spot with their required equipment – a fun and challenging way to spend a Saturday Morning

- Date:** 17<sup>th</sup> May 2008
- Starting Point:** Blyde Canyon Adventure Camp (on the Jonkmanspruit Rd)
- Ending Point:** Southern Cross School
- Starting Time:** 07h00
- Race Brief:** 06h30 (at Blyde Adventure Camp)
- Cost:** R600 per team
- Format:** Teams to consist of 6 members each (4 race participants and 2 support crew)
- Distance:** 13km Running; 6km Rafting; 35km Cycling with adventure tasks in between
- Equipment:** Teams need to supply own running and cycling equipment. All cyclists to wear helmets. Race Organisers will supply rafting equipment (crocs, paddles, life vests and helmets).



## STARTING YOUNG

As we all know how important it is to start environmental and lifestyle education at a young age, the K2C Biosphere has arranged for around 300 children from the surrounding communities to come through to the festival on Friday. While they are here, they will be involved in a number of workshops addressed specifically to them and thereafter will be taken around the festival and introduced to all the various Exhibitors and their importance to the Sustainable Living process. Additionally an art competition has been run with a number of the schools in the community regions.

**Supporters and sponsors of this include:**  
Great North Transport (supplying of transport), SAEON (Entrance Fees and Lunch), CET-KPNR (Art Competition and Sustainable Living Workshop), ECO-SCHOOLS (Art Competition) WILDERNESS VISION

- Lowveld & Limpopo Living
- Mafunyane Tribal Village
- Mapusha Weavers
- Maruleng Municipality
- McFarlane Safaris
- Miko Coffee
- Moholoholo Rehabilitation
- Moletele Land Claimants
- Mongoose Research
- Mount Blyde
- MTPA
- Nando's
- Obaro
- Open Africa
- Palabora Foundation
- Palabora Mining Company
- Pharma Natura Medicinal Plants
- Pick n Pay
- ProNature
- Protrack
- Real Africa Estate & Travel
- Reach-a-cross
- River Lodge
- SAEON
- Save the Elephant
- Self-Sustainable Creations
- Share Net
- Simplethnic Design
- Southern Cross PA
- Southern African Wildlife College
- SUNRAE
- Temp Tattoos
- Thembo Researchers
- Toyota
- Vhembe Biosphere
- Victoria Garden
- Waterberg Biosphere
- Wegraakbosch Diary
- White Lion Trust
- Wishbone Dog Treats

.....and more

## ded gtz assisting in Mpumalanga

Mpumalanga Rural Development Programme (MRDP) is a 'gtz' (Deutsche Gesellschaft fuer Technische Zusammenarbeit) supported programme in coop-

eration with the Office of the Premier in Mpumalanga Province. 'ded' (Deutscher Entwicklungsdienst) is contributing to the programme by providing advisers for support.

MRDP operations began in 2001 and the objectives include development and support of the economic and social situation of the population in selected municipalities in former homelands within Mpumalanga Province through integration within the IDP (Integrated Development Plan) framework.

Earth is worth saving....  
.... It's the only planet that has Chocolate



## REGIONAL SUSTAINABLE LIVING FESTIVAL SPECIALS

The following tourist facilities in K2C will be offering Festival Specials over the 15<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup> May on production of a Sustainable Living Festival entrance ticket

**KHAMAI REPTILE PARK SPECIAL FEE**

R20 Adult/ R10 child (4-14yrs)  
**Entrance Fees**

**HOEDSPRUIT ENDANGERED SPECIES CENTRE**

**10% off on Entrance Fees**

**MOHOLOHOLO REHABILITATION CENTRE**

**30% off on Entrance Fees**

**BOMBYX MORI SILK FARM**

**FREE tours + 10% Discount on all curio sales**