Koeberg Visitors Centre and Nature Reserve Newsletter

Nuclear Connection



September 2018





belong to plants called holoparasites. Unlike other plants, they do not have any chlorophyll and so cannot photosynthesise to produce food. Instead, they attach themselves to the roots of other plants to draw water and nutrients from their

unsuspecting Hyobanche sanguinea hosts. They do

not have their own roots and will burrow into another plant with a special structure known as a haustorium. The

structure can grow up to two metres long while searching for an appropriate host plant. Hydnora Africana

Three groups of senior citizens visited, including the University of the Third Age and the False Bay Probus group.

CoCT Environmental Education Team on a tour of the nature reserve

and so are people, it seems.

Spring brought with it a flurry of activity - flowers

are everywhere, animals are scurrying about -

The Visitors Centre hosted I 660 visitors during

September! Of this, I 352 were from educational

institutions, including the University of Limpopo

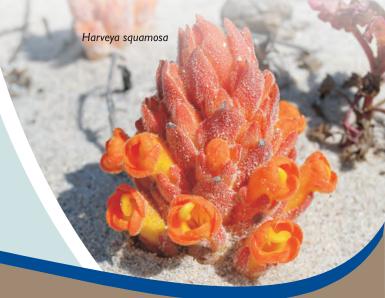
and Hochschule Karlsruhe from Germany.

The Western Cape Chapter of Mensa visited on 27 September 2018. They were so impressed with Koeberg, they decided to stay to attend the Koeberg Public Safety Information Forum (PSIF) held that same evening. Several of the members said that their minds have been changed about nuclear and that they feel more supportive of it after their visit.

The Environmental Education Team from the City of Cape Town held their quarterly meeting at the Visitors Centre and enjoyed a special tour of the nature reserve.

The rhizomes of the plants are covered in modified bracts that can

form secondary haustoria. When a host root touches the bract, it will send out another haustorium. A single plant can be attached to different hosts. The only visible part of these parasitic plants are their flowers which push to the surface from underground.





International Splitting hares Coastal Cleanup In South Africa there are two species of hares, four species of red rock rabbit, and the critically endangered riverine Hares are long-legged fast runners and their young are born fully furred, mobile and with all their senses developed. burrows or under the cover of rocks and their young are born blind and relatively helpless in fur-lined nests. At Koeberg, both the Cape Hares and Scrub Hares occur. Cape hare prefer open grassland areas with light scrub, The International Coastal Cleanup Day (ICC) began back in 1986 when communities came together with a common goal of collecting and documenting trash found on the coastline. The movement was initiated by two women, Linda Maraniss and Kathy O'Hara, colleagues working at the Ocean Conservancy in Texas. They recognised the impact litter will have on our oceans. These two inspirational women reached out to ocean lovers and planned the first coastal clean-up. The volunteers were asked to record each item found on a data sheet to identify possible ways to eliminate ocean trash. Since then the clean-up initiative has grown internationally. Every year, around September, thousands of people join in to do their part in cleaning up coastlines. Last year 504 583 volunteers joined the ICC worldwide. On 13 September 2018, Koeberg Nature Reserve and power station staff joined forces to clean-up Koeberg's section of the coastline. Several bakkie loads were collected and properly disposed of. Various strange items including shoes and parts of furniture were collected. The majority of the rubbish collected were plastic bottles and food wrappers. Hares out at night to drive safely