

View From The Top

This month we offer the very best deals on Bird Grub and Suet Bits – top grade suet from Elaine's Birding and Wildlife Products

This last month has seen the environmental disaster in Knysna and nearby areas. We have friends who were affected with loss of property. Fortunately no loss of life, and even their pets are safe. Unfortunately, there have been deaths. The secondary shock has been to see injured wild animals, and the devastation, that will cause hunger and suffering. Our thoughts are with the Western Cape.

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Birding Shrub of the Month

Horsewood (*Clausena anisata*)

This tree is intended for somewhat shadier areas of your garden. It will probably be best in KZN and EC gardens, but should do reasonably well in Gauteng, and will flower in spring. The tree attracts insects in large number to the flowers, and (not surprisingly), the birds follow. In turn a berry is produced that is also eaten by birds. Foliage is quite thick, and birds will enjoy the cover and protection.

It will not grow higher than 5m, and is suitable for smaller gardens.



**Foliage of the Horsewood
(an indigenous shrub)**

Nature's Heart

JULY is SUET TIME!!

Specials of the Month

Valid from 1 July 2017 until 21 July 2017 or while stocks last. (All prices include VAT).

- 1): Bird Grub Suet Balls.
R15,00
- 2): Suet Balls Multipack 12
R160,00
- 3): Bird Grub Suet Slabs.
R15,00
- 4): Suet Slabs Multipack 12
R160,00
- 5): 3 Pack Mini Balls.
R25,00
- 6): 30 Suet Ball Bucket
R230,00
- 7): Suet Bits 800g
R55,00
- 8): Suet Bits 3kg
R180,00

Bon Mots

Art is contemplation. It is the pleasure of the mind which searches into nature and which there divines the spirit of which nature herself is animated.

Auguste Rodin

Environmental Chirps

It seems almost certain that a large percentage of the recent fires in the WC were set intentionally. It is impossible to comprehend the senseless criminality of the act, apart from suggesting that the perpetrators will likely never be caught, and probably regarded this as a low risk act of vandalism. Actually it amounts to murder. In the wake of the devastation, we have to count the cost. Some suggest that the forest will

never be the same, others believe it could take 50 to 100 years to recover. We may be long dead by the time the forest area returns to the pristine condition that we have known in earlier times. All the same, it is worthwhile to support the groups who are trying to limit the damage, and resuscitate what they can. We have to pick ourselves up from an act of environmental terrorism.

Bird of the Month

Crested Barbet
(*Trachyphonus vaillantii*)

If you are lucky enough to have a resident crested barbet, then you are lucky enough (apologies to the Irish readers). This toughie is really special, from the colour, to the distinctive clicking call, to the aggressive behaviour. Yet they become very comfortable with the bird-lovers presence, and will come right up to you at your feeder to get their daily treat. It is also fun to encourage them to breed in your garden using nesting logs. Fortunately they love both fruit and Elaine's suet in even measure, and are very easily attracted to your garden. A "Crestie" means hours of fun!

