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It is always a great feeling to end a project. In this case we end a year, and the result has been a clean-up in many areas.

It is just as exciting to start a new year, a new project, a new idea. And so it is that Nature's Heart starts 2018 with a plan to expand our product offering, and to be the supplier of choice for our birding community.

Again, we thank you for your support in 2017, and look forward to renewing our relationship with all our old friends, subscribers and customers. The on-line shop will be reactivated in time to commence filling orders on 8th January 2018.

We encourage you to actively post and participate on our Facebook page, and to submit your views and ideas to us. Every success to you all in 2018! - George

george@naturesheart.co.za.



Monkey-thorn

Nature's Heart

Specials of the Month

January is a month of consolidation, and restarting production lines. Suet products are always prioritised. As such we are keeping the December specials in place (they related to suet).

Thus, valid until 26th January 2018 or while stocks last. (All prices include VAT).

- 1): Suet Pop (300g)
Buy 4 and get one free!!
R120,00
- 2): Suet Pop Mega (600g)
Buy 4 and get one free!!
R200,00
- 3): 2 x 30 Mini Suet Ball
Bucket Special
R500,00
- 4): 3 x Suet Ball/Slab
Multipack 12 Special
R550,00
- 5): 100 x 100g Suet Mini Balls
Bulk Pack
R850,00
- 6): 50 x 200g Suet Balls
Bulk Pack
R840,00
- 7): 50 x 200g Suet Slabs
Bulk Pack
R825,00

Birding Plant of the Month

Black Monkey-thorn or Swartapiesdoring (*Senegalia burkei*)

Another acacia, as for last month, and one that will also get >10m tall. Again, they will not tolerate frost, but are superb in hot/dry regions. The tree is suitable for many reasons, but from the birders perspective, the biggest plus is the insects that are attracted (resulting in a full range of insectivorous birds).

If you are very fortunate (we were!) you may see a family of Bush Babies move in and make it home.

Even if you do not get bush babies, the tree is likely to attract nesting birds, our experience was weavers, sparrows, barbets, and Hadeda ibises. And it is a pretty tree...

Bon Mots

Contrary to what most people say, the most dangerous animal in the world is not the lion or the tiger or even the elephant. It's a shark riding on an elephant's back, just trampling and eating everything they see. Jack Handey

Environmental Chirps

We have just been blessed to spend a few days in the Kruger National Park. As always it was revitalising, and well worth tolerating the (up to) 37 degree temperatures.

Nevertheless, it was very disappointing to realise that there are exactly three bird-hides in the south of the park, an area of nearly 500000 hectares. (Count them; Lake Panic, Gardenia, and Nthandanyathi). That is less than Rietvlei Nature Reserve!

No KNP. It is not good enough for the premium eco-tourism destination in the country.

Bird of the Month

Saddle-billed Stork
(*Ephippiorhynchus senegalensis*)

The stork is a symbol of purity and love. For this reason, storks are associated with pregnancy and childbirth. Our bird of the month looks to 2018, and wishes you a year of love.

We found this pair of "lovebirds" on the S25 in KNP. We hope you love them as much as we did...

