

Welcome

to

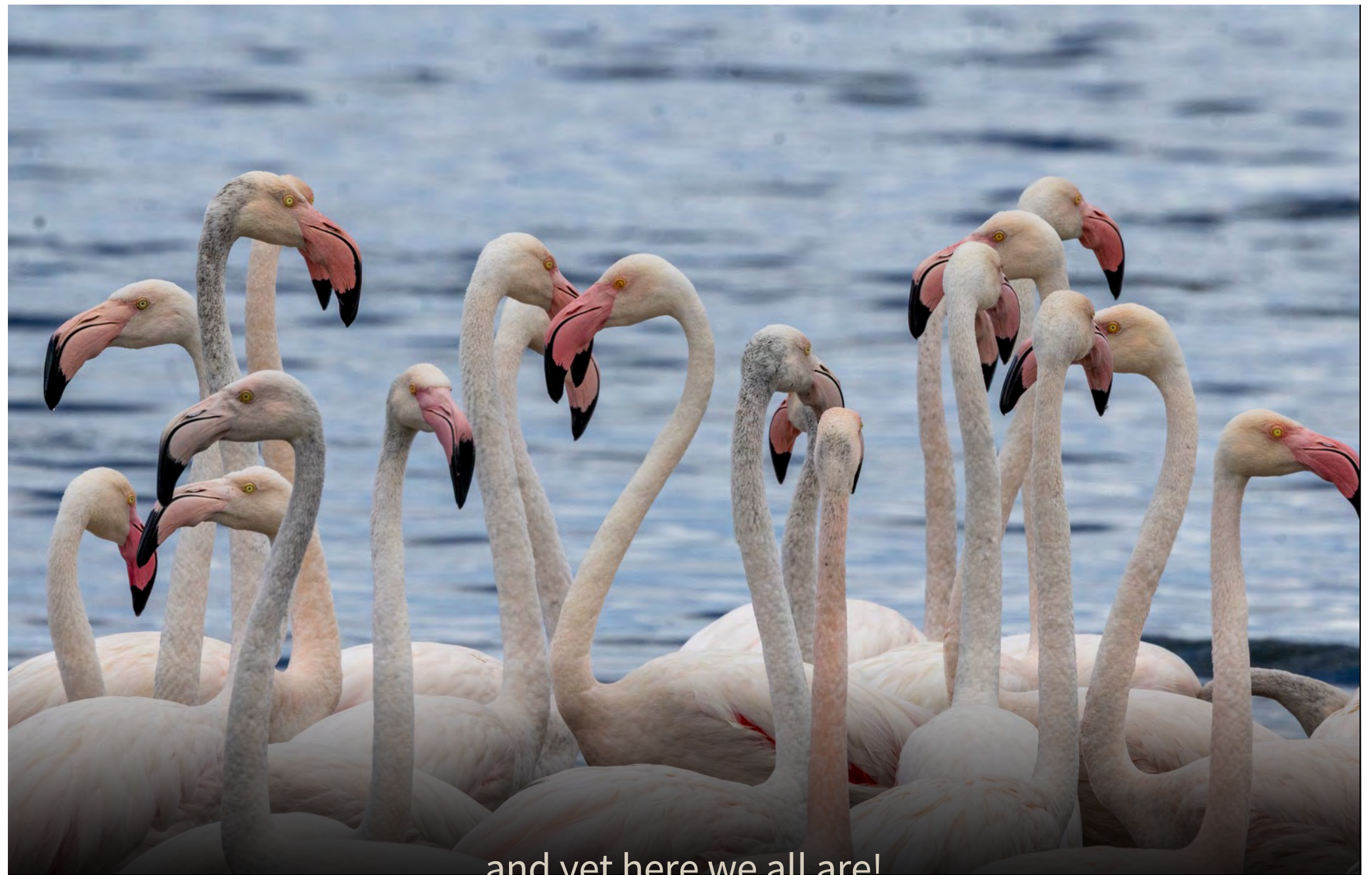
BirdLife eThekwinini KZN's

77th AGM





We live in an age of extraordinary connection.
Our phones connect us instantly to thousands of people, information
flows endlessly across screens, and social media promises communities
that span the globe.



and yet here we all are!

Birding slows us down

- Connection with nature.
- Connection with place.
- And connection with each other.



2025 in review

Membership 2025

Jane Morris, Membership Manager

- care and diligence in managing membership administration,
- following up with members, and
- nurturing a welcoming environment has made a significant difference.

- 675 members
- 2026 accounts and resignations completed
- database ready for hand over to new committee



Activities 2025

Activities Co-ordinator | Jenny Norman



- ❖ **heartbeat of any bird club, and I would like to thank Jenny Norman, who once again ensured that every month of 2025 offered something to look forward to**
- ❖ **A range of activities totaling +/-60 over the year**
- ❖ **Walks, Stake-outs, Online meetings and presentations, Day-trips, Weekends Away, Bird learn, Atlas, Conservation**

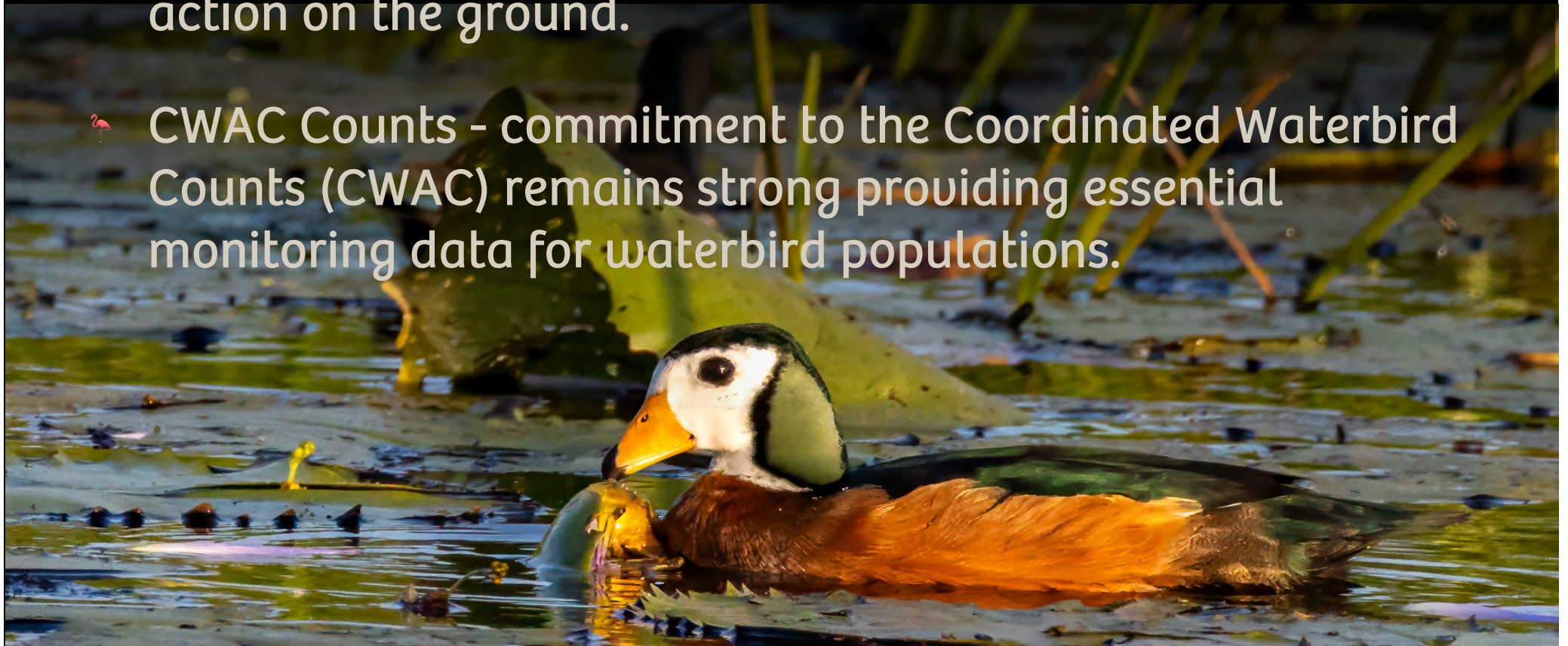
CONSERVATION INITIATIVES

Conservation Co-ordinator | Steve Davis

Hands-On Conservation – Making a Tangible Impact

🦩 active engagement in conservation efforts = meaningful action on the ground.

🦩 CWAC Counts - commitment to the Coordinated Waterbird Counts (CWAC) remains strong providing essential monitoring data for waterbird populations.




Be KZN CALENDAR

Calendar Co-ordinator | Ticky Forbes

A Calendar that Drives Conservation and Community Impact

- powerhouse fundraiser
- directly supporting club improvements, outreach, events, and conservation donations.
- theme "*The Miracle of Migration*"
- Hugh Chittenden, Johnny de Beer, EJ Bartlett, Anneli Mynhardt photographs always bring our calendar to life.
- Thank you as well to our 2025 calendar sponsors
- To every member—THANK YOU!

Your contributions not only ensured the calendars continued success but also had a major impact on our conservation efforts.

- 
- ❖ Whylo (2 pages)
 - ❖ BubbleNet Designs
 - ❖ Bill Nortje
 - ❖ Sham Naidoo
 - ❖ Townscape Designs (EJ)
 - ❖ Zulu Zonke
 - ❖ PIMS
 - ❖ AnA Brokers
 - ❖ McArthur Inc
 - ❖ Rookaya Vahed
 - ❖ Silver Rythm
 - ❖ Steve Davis/Anneli Mynhardt
 - ❖ The Birding Life
 - ❖ De Beer Family

To the Committee

Office Bearers

Nicolette Forbes

Andrew Mather

Bridget Thorne

Carron Dove

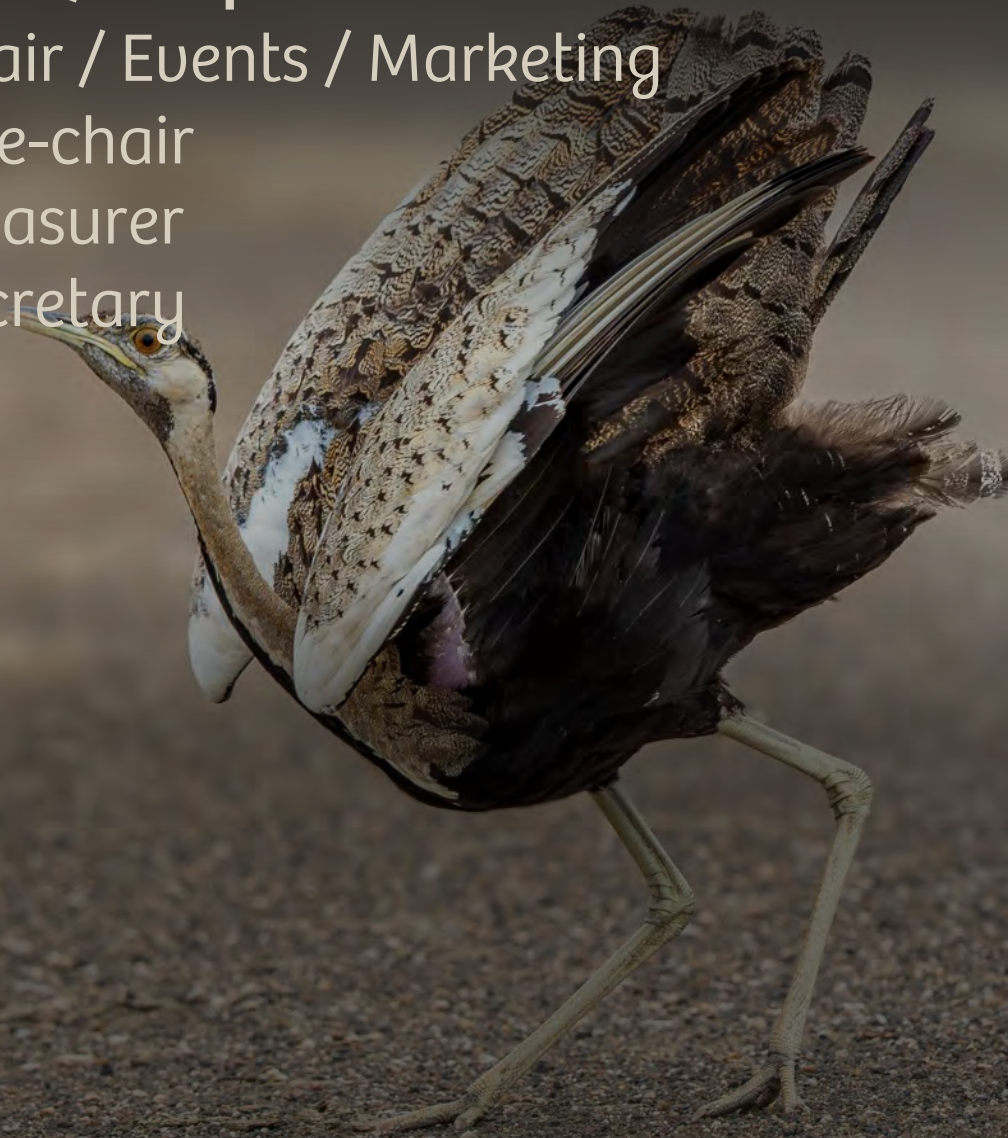
Roles/Portfolios

Chair / Events / Marketing

Vice-chair

Treasurer

Secretary



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Portfolios

Jenny Norman
Jane Morris
Ticky Forbes
Steve Davis
Dave Rimmer

Activities Co-ordinator
Membership Manager
Calendar coordinator
Conservation Co-ordinator
Social Media/Atlas



Honorary Life Membership Awards

Honorary Life Membership is one of the highest honours that BirdLife eThekweni KZN can bestow.

Five member limit – but we have three spaces

if AGM meetings are bridges (from one year to the next),

lets hope on this day,

that we make it across without too much sway,

but whether your birds be in country or town,

look up and look out but never look down.



Honorary Life Membership Awards

Honorary Life Membership is one of the highest honours that BirdLife eThekweni KZN can bestow.

So it is time to look up and look out and announce that this year a motivation was made and unanimously accepted by the Committee to confer Honorary Life Membership of BirdLife eThekweni KZN on three outstanding individuals:

- Mr Ismail Vahed,
- Dr Adam Khan, and
- Mrs Kathleen (Pat) Long.



Its been nearly a decade



Reflective

Its been nearly a decade



from keeping the club alive → to growing it → to making it matter

companionship and safety – opportunities for learning

knowledge becomes conservation action

It's been nearly a decade

During these years the club has embraced change.



It's been nearly a decade

highs and its lows

support

empathy



It's been nearly a decade

highs and its lows

support

empathy

relationships



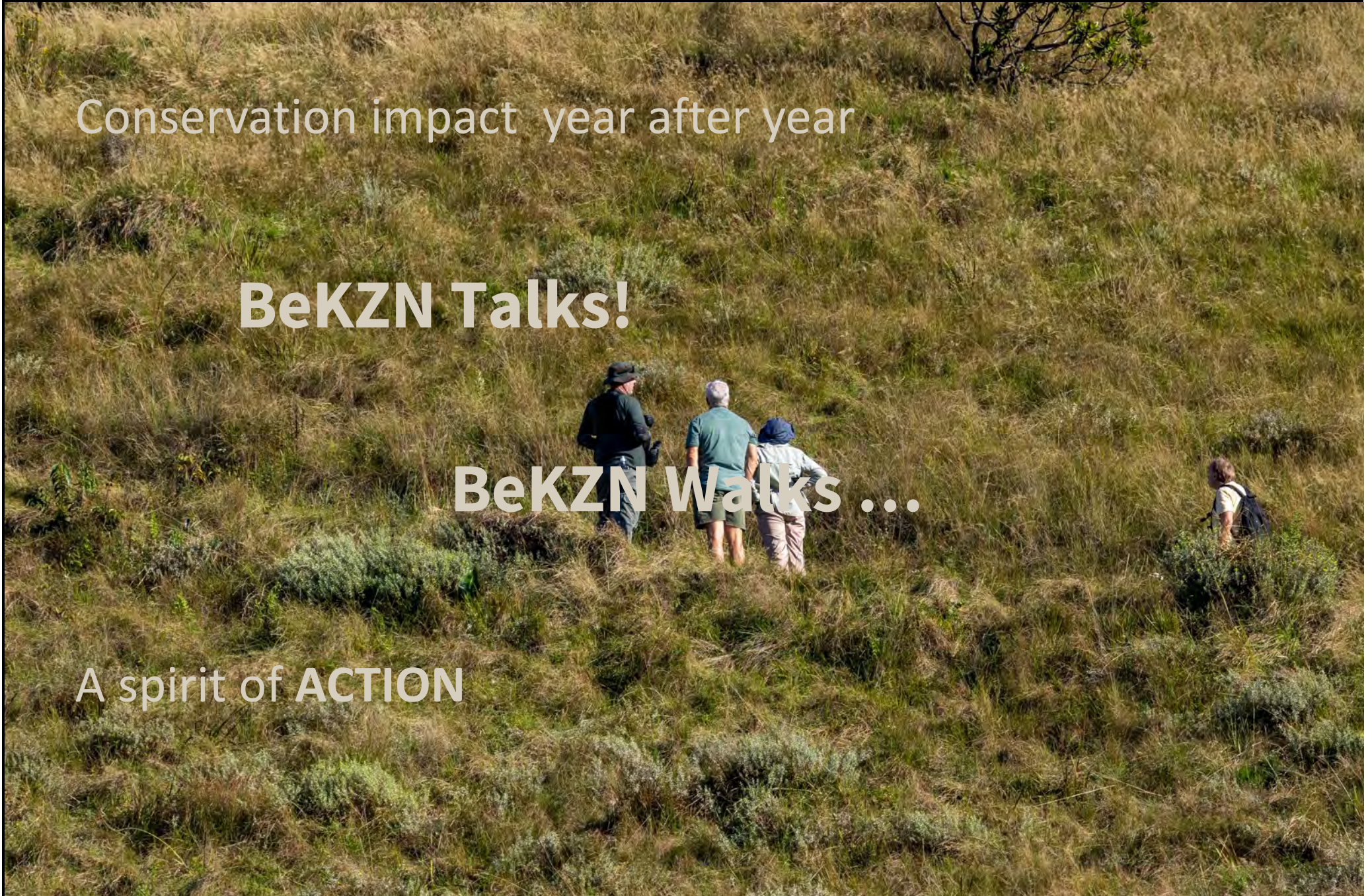
It's been nearly a decade

Conservation impact year after year

BeKZN Talks!

BeKZN Walks ...

A spirit of **ACTION**



COMMITMENT INTO CONSERVATION

- financial reserves through careful stewardship
- successful fundraising initiatives such as our calendar,
- and the huge generosity of our members.



COMMITMENT INTO CONSERVATION

- the AFS for the first time in 9 years reflects a **DEFICIT**
- NOT a financial problem.
- reflects that we are using funds that were accumulated over the past eight years for the very purpose for which they were raised

bird conservation



COMMITMENT INTO CONSERVATION

- TWO core functions
 - member experience and
 - conservation of birds and their habitats

support - - - conservation

When the club is fortunate enough to have the financial capacity to make a meaningful contribution to conservation, it is not just an opportunity — it is a responsibility.

COMMITMENT INTO CONSERVATION

donate our highest total ever

R550,000

to bird conservation

COMMITMENT INTO CONSERVATION



Mouse Free Marion

R150,000

COMMITMENT INTO CONSERVATION



Mouse Free Marion

R250,000

COMMITMENT INTO CONSERVATION

BirdLife South Africa

Albatross Task Force

R200 000

Unrestricted funding


R200 000


COMMITMENT INTO CONSERVATION


memorable moments:

early mornings in beautiful places, lively discussions in talks and meetings, friendships formed over binoculars and field guides, and the shared excitement that comes when someone calls out “There it is!”


A TOAST TO END


 First to the members we have lost—may their legacy live on in the birds we cherish.


 Secondly, on a much happier note, a toast to those present here today — thank you for being part of this special event and community.

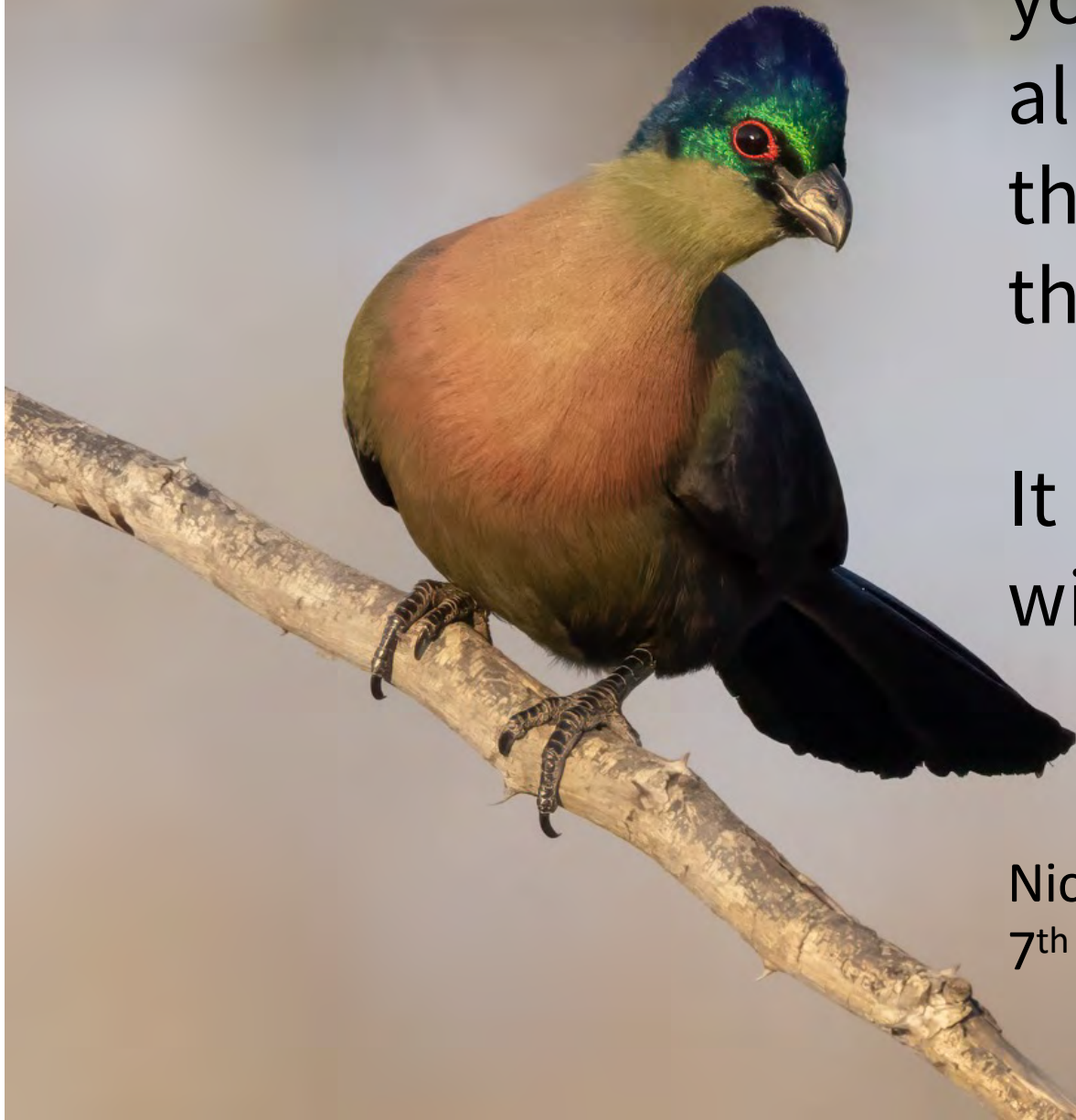
 and finally a toast to ALL our members (who should have been with us) may we see you out birding soon *and* at the next AGM.

My Lyrical Goodbye

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 Secondly, on a much happier note, a toast to those present here today — thank you for being part of this special event and community.

 and finally a toast to ALL our members (who should have been with us) may we see you out birding soon *and* at the next AGM.



And with that, I thank you for the privilege of allowing me to serve this remarkable club for the past nine years.

It has been an honour I will always treasure.

Nicolette Forbes
7th March 2026