

RAMSAR certificate for the False Bay Nature Reserve.

*This is a working partnership with the **City of Cape Town** and the **Cape Bird Club**.*

World Wetlands Day, 02 February 2015 was celebrated with the handing over of the certification of the **False Bay Nature Reserve** becoming the 22 nd **RAMSAR** site in South Africa.

The photographs by Gavin Lawson.



Peter Willis, the MC for the event introducing proceedings.



Councillor Johan van der Merwe, Mayoral Committee Member for Energy, Environment and Spatial Planning delivering his speech.



Some of the audience listening to the speeches.



National Deputy Minister for Environmental Affairs Barbara Thomson thanking all the people who have worked hard to achieve this important milestone for the False Bay Ecology Park.



Some of the audience listening to her speech.



The important people who have and are implementing the upgrading of the eastern shore of Zeekoevlei.



The official handing over of the certificate to the City.



What many people have worked long and hard for, and shall continue to do so.



A proud moment and a big milestone for the Park.



Asieff Khan, Manager of the False Bay Nature Reserve with the official certificate.



A proud Dalton Gibbs making sure he gets a digital record of the certificate.



Stephen Granger the Chairman of the FBEP Steering Committee and his Dept staff were instrumental in co-ordinating in putting today's activity together.



Jessica Kavonic and Muofhe Maiwashe are hardworking interns for ERM Major Projects and programmes.



The xylophone and drumming group from Philippi were very good and got the day going with a good African feel and vibe.



The Cape Bird Club were allocated an information tent. (The photo was taken when all were in the main marquee).



Ian Cranna, City of Cape Town Environmental Resource Management and Doug Harebottle, Scientific Avian Researcher were there too.



A number of people were joining in the dancing after the official ceremony.

Lunch was next.



I was lucky to get a lift across Zeekoevlei to the Nature Reserve headquarters in Richard's boat, along with Karen Watkins, Jimmy Baigrie and Dalton Gibbs. The main marquee can be seen in the background.



Approaching the headquarters from the waterside.



Tony van Ryneveld and Deen Singh flying the flag for the Village Heights Community Centre.



Natalie Newman, Candice Haskins and Josh Gericke representing various C of CT departments.



Victoria Day, Nicki Stock, Tracy Gibbs, Dalton Gibbs, Richard Cammell and Karen Watkins.



Loubie Rusch, Marijke Honig and Sandra Fowkes.



Dalton, Richard (who deserved his lunch he had been taking officials around the vlei earlier, Karen, Sam White and Peter Oscroft.

Thank you to everyone who made this day possible.

Gavin Lawson.