

Dear

### Kuzuko Memorial Birdhide at Kuzuko Lodge

We celebrated the opening of the A Rocha memorial bird hide at Kuzuko Lodge in the Eastern Cape the first weekend in September. It was a bittersweet time of remembrance and celebrating creation. here are some thoughts from the weekend:

#### Dr Mark Brown (A Rocha SA board of reference member)

"This weekend was surreal. I recently re-connected with the incredible organisation known as A Rocha South Africa, a Christian conservation group I co-founded in the early 2000's as part of a global Christian conservation movement, called A Rocha. Murray Tessendorf, the National Director, invited Kelly, the kids and I to join him for a special weekend at Kuzuko Lodge in the Eastern Cape. The main aim of the weekend was to officially open a new living memorial bird hide in memory of A Rocha International staff Miranda Harris, Chis and Suzanna Naylor, who tragically lost their lives after a visit to Kuzuko last year. Peter, who was also in the accident and seriously injured, and Miranda Harris were instrumental in shaping my theology of creation care, and became good friends to Kelly and I as we were setting A Rocha up in SA all those years ago. Having stayed in touch even in recent years, it was a real blessing to be present this weekend to open this hide, and especially to do some ringing around and in it. I have fond memories of ringing with Peter, and A Rocha Kenya stalwart Colin Jackson. This living memorial is simply amazing, and the staff and volunteers at Kuzuko who built it are to be commended for the incredible lengths they have gone to in order to honour 4 people I have so much respect for. Thank you to all involved! A special thank you to Murray, and to Catharina and her team at Kuzuko for including us in this celebratory weekend!"

#### Murray Tessendorf (A Rocha SA National Director):

"Time to say thank you to all who voluntarily put time and effort into the construction of the A Rocha Memorial Bird Hide situated at [Kuzuko Lodge](#). Thanks to Keith Joubert, Lesley Joubert, Wentzel Greyling and Martin Keevy for the part you played in constructing the hide. Gerhard de Lange for videoing the progress and to Catharina de Lange for making this all possible. Thanks to **Mark Brown** and Kelly Brown for facilitating the bird ringing and a special thank you to Kuzuko Lodge for hosting us this weekend."

#### Catharina de Lange (Kuzuko manager):

"Today's living tribute Bird Hide unveiling was such a special time spent with everyone who assisted in making this dream a reality."  
"What an awesome day learning about our favourite feathered friends at Kuzuko Lodge. Mark Brown, thank you for a super informative final day of our weekend celebrating the unveiling of our A Rocha Memorial Hide - a living tribute. A great few hours of bird ringing at the A Rocha Memorial Bird Hide at Kuzuko Lodge. 33 birds, 10 species and a few very interested people."



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