



A TRIBUTE

The Story of Henri Serieese

Henri arrived at Bezuidenhoutshoek whilst on holiday from Holland for the first time in 2010 at the age of 73 with some friends who were visiting the farm. Henri immediately fell in love with the farm and our vision of rehabilitating the farms 3000 hectares back to pristine condition. This involved the removal of Poplar Canensis, Sesbania, Bramble, Bankrupt Bush, Gum and Wattle.

Henri asked if he could come back annually for three months a year and work. No remuneration, only board and lodging. His first task was to rehabilitate a valley overgrown with poplar and bramble. This is now known as Henri's valley which is pristine, boasts a 1.4km hiking trail, and ends at the Olifants River where Henri has cleared a large area of Black wattle now known as "By Die Waterkant"

Over the years Henri has cleared approximately 15 hectares of Poplar Canensis, 32 hectares of Bankrupt Bush, large areas of Bramble and Sesbania. The Pom Pom Weed with its windblown seeds from far and wide has proved to be a big challenge with new plants being found each year. Unfortunately the authorities whilst recognising this grave threat to the grasslands have and are doing little to help.

We celebrated Henri's 80th birthday in January this year, 2017 and are looking forward to having him back in December.

A very special thank you, Mafika Pom Pom, from the staff for the privelge of working by your side.

It is an honour and privilege for our families and friends of Bezuidenhoutshoek to know you. Bezuidenhoutshoek can never thank you enough for the love and dedication you have given the farm.

From age 81 onwards we trust you will keep coming and enjoy the fruits of all your hours of hard work

Bezuidenhoutshoek and staff will always be in your debt.

Thank you

Eric and Sid