

Viva to volunteers of second coastal clean-up

BETTY'S BAY - This year's International Coastal Clean-up Day turned out to be a huge success all over the Overstrand area. Apart from all the clean-up drives on 18 September, the South African National Biodiversity Institute's Harold Porter National Botanical Garden (NBG) in partnership with Plastics SA hosted a second coastal clean-up event in collaboration with Healing Revival Crusade's Church and St Nicholas Mother Unions on 2 October 2021 at Dawidskraal Beach.

Early on this cloudy Saturday morning, the Harold Porter bus collected the volunteers in Kleinmond. "It was drizzling the morning; however I could see that the rain didn't deter the volunteers from coming to the beach," says Delicia Appel. She explained the microplastic monitoring datasheet the participants were tasked to complete.

More than ten bags of trash were collected within two



hours. It was mostly plastic pieces and cigarette butts. They are some of the main toxic pollutants threatening marine life.

After the clean-up, all gathered at the Harold Porter NBG and enjoyed a walk in the garden as well as hearty sweet snacks

including delicious hotdogs, doughnuts, fruit and drinks. As a token of appreciation for their active efforts in addressing litter on the coast, every volunteer received a gift pack from the Garden.

"On behalf of Harold Porter National Botanical Garden, I would like to say

thank you to the following sponsors that made our day triumphant: Kleinmond Spar, Kleinmond Tourism, Plastics SA and Charmaine Gideon for providing the doughnuts. And for each volunteer who made an impact on our beaches and our precious marine life," Delicia said.