

Rooiels Hack Report September 2026



On a cold and windy morning with a constant threat of rain, it was hugely pleasing to have a total of 16 people join the Rooiels hack. The coffee provided by Wolf was definitely needed – a huge thanks again to him for constantly being there first to get the hack started in a very pleasant way. Also thanks again to Marina for the donation of the condensed milk. Nothing like condensed milk coffee to give one the energy boost needed in advance of the physical effort about to come. We welcomed Nicci to her first hack, and are happy to hear it won't be her last. It was also nice to see Ernst back from his travels, and to have John and Alison at the hack.



We split into 3 teams to address different problem areas in the village. The first team guided by Maurice went up to the reservoir to tackle the Port Jackson and Rooikrans in and around the

reservoir area. Unfortunately, the municipality didn't open the gate to the reservoir as arranged. There were a number of large (and seeding) Port Jacksons within the enclosure. This was no problem to the team – I believe Maurice did some acrobatic climbing to get both in and out even using Doug as a ladder ! That's commitment.



Spot The Hacker

The second team started behind the koppie where a large Hakea and Rooikrans were spotted. As usual once in the area they used the opportunity to pull out a number of seedlings, preventing a future problem. From there they went to Klein Rooiles as part of the regular follow, getting rid of mainly Rooikrans seedlings. This is an area that needs constant follow up and there is still some work to be done here.

The third team went to the end of Porter drive to cut down a number of fairly large Rooikrans that were mainly on the middle and upper slopes of Klein Hangklip. There was also a focus on smaller ones just above the road verge. It was some challenging terrain and quite a climb but I'm pleased to say that the slopes of Hanklip are largely now alien free on the village side.



Once the hacking was done it was a pleasure to have a warm spot out of the wind and light rain to enjoy some well-earned refreshments. A huge thanks to the Lamberts for opening their home to us, and especially to Vicki for the delicious sandwiches and fresh sourdough scones. What a way to end the hack. As usual a special thanks to our neighbors Richard and Rob from Bettys and Tommy and Chris from Pringle. Your support of the Rooiels hack is hugely appreciated.

Next Rooiels hack is on 10 October. Please diarize to join us - and bring a friend!



Why we hack – to protect this !

