

The Green Times offers a basket of stories to celebrate and encourage the resilience of the human spirit and our special knack to overcome the biggest global crisis ever.

# green times



green FROM THE INSIDE OUT

Anna Breytenbach is one of our country's foremost animal communicators and a teacher in animal communication. She went to Kommetjie during the whale beachings and listened to what they had to say.

The majority of the whales were sick and dying - as a result of swimming in some sort of chemical effluent in the ocean, to the northwest of Cape waters. This invisible toxic stream affected them internally to cause a slow death. So their immune systems crashed, making them susceptible to and ill from parasitic infections. A few of them were physically fine, having withstood this - but they weren't going to leave their family members. So they swam ashore with the dying ones.

**One for all.**

They beached because they wanted to die.

They chose the Cape beach so they would not have to navigate the stormy, rough seas around Cape Point in their weakened state, and because they wanted humans to witness their deaths. On the bigger/planetary level too. They said "the Mother" (the ocean) is being poisoned, and so are they. It's time humans woke up to this and witnessed the effects.

**To die in peace.**

The whales appreciated the compassion and care that people showed in trying to return them to the water, but would have

wished to be given the choice, i.e. pointed out to sea/refloated once, and then left to die in peace if and when they returned.

Humans holding vigil for them with understanding would have been far better than the forceful, violent means ultimately used.

In between the above thought forms are the emotions and soulfulness of their consciousness that cannot be expressed in words by this mere human.

*With honour and reverence for all whales,  
Anna*

## one for all the way of the whales

Read more on Anna's work at [www.animalspirit.co.za](http://www.animalspirit.co.za)

### imminent green taxes

Green taxes are about to be introduced in South Africa. It means local businesses will soon be able to cut their tax bill by reducing their carbon emissions.

South Africa's greenhouse gas emissions rank in the top 20 in the world, and it is recognised that climate change is a top priority issue. In accordance with international trends, the South African government has proposed environmental tax incentives to address these negative effects.

**The draft Tax Amendment Bill released recently for comment covers two incentives.**

**1** An incentive for any business that takes part in a clean development mechanism project. There has been limited uptake of such projects in the country so far, largely because of financial difficulties encountered by companies. However Sasol applied to register a project in December 2008.

**2** Deductions for energy saved provided that there is documentary proof of the resulting energy efficiencies certified by the Energy Efficiency Agency. The Bill also contains amendments to the travelling allowance system.

While green tax is a new move locally, environmental taxes

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Nicola Hemmes

Photograph by Nicola Hemmes

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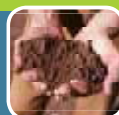
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