

## *Curriculum Vitae*

### **JOHN E. ALMOND Ph.D. (Cantab)**

***Natura Viva cc*, PO Box 12410 Mill Street, CAPE TOWN 8010, RSA  
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- **Honours Degree in Natural Sciences (Zoology)**, University of Cambridge, UK (1980).
- **PhD in Earth Sciences (Palaeontology)**, University of Cambridge, UK (1986).
- **Post-doctoral Research Fellowships** at University of Cambridge, UK and Tübingen University, Germany (Humboldt Research Fellow).
- **Visiting Scientist** at various research institutions in Europe, North America, South Africa and fieldwork experience in all these areas, as well as in North Africa.
- **Scientific Officer, Council for Geoscience, RSA** (1990-1998) – palaeontological research and fieldwork – especially in western RSA and Namibia.
- **Managing Member, *Natura Viva cc*** – a Cape Town-based company specialising in broad-based natural history education, tourism and research – especially in the Arid West of Southern Africa (2000 onwards). *Natura Viva cc* produces **technical reports** on palaeontology, geology, botany and other aspects of natural history for public and private nature reserves.
- **Current palaeontological research** focuses on fossil record of the Precambrian / Cambrian boundary (especially trace fossils), and the Cape Supergroup of South Africa.
- **Registered Field Guide for South Africa and Namibia**
- **Member of the A-team, Botanical Society of SA** (Kirstenbosch Branch) – involved in teaching and training leaders for botanical excursions. Invited leader of annual Botanical Society excursions (Kirstenbosch Branch) to Little Karoo, Cederberg, Namaqualand and other areas since 2005.
- **Professional training of Western and Eastern Cape Field Guides** (FGASA Level 1 & 2, in conjunction with *The Gloriosa Nature Company*) and of Tourist Guides in various aspects of natural history.
- Involved in **extra-mural teaching in natural history** since the early 1980s. Extensive experience in **public lecturing**, running **intensive courses** and leading **field excursions for professional academics as well as enthusiastic amateurs** (e.g. Geological Society / Archaeological Society / Friends of the SA Museum / Cape Natural History Club / Mineral Club / Botanical Society of South Africa / SA Museum Summer & Winter School Programmes / UCT Summer School)
- **Development of palaeontological teaching materials** (textbooks, teachers guides, palaeontological displays) and **teacher training** for the new school science curriculum (GET, FET).
- Former long-standing member of **Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites Committee for Heritage Western Cape (HWC)**. Advisor on palaeontological conservation and management issues for the Palaeontological Society of South Africa (PSSA), HWC and SAHRA (including APM Permit Committee at HWC). Compilation of **technical reports on provincial palaeontological heritage of Western, Northern and Eastern Cape** for SAHRA and HWC. Accredited member of PSSA and APHP (Association of Professional Heritage Practitioners, Western Cape).
- **Palaeontological impact assessments for developments in the Western Cape, Eastern Cape, Northern Cape, Free State, Northwest Province, Mpumalanga, Gauteng.**

- Several hundred **palaeontological heritage desktop studies and field assessments** completed over the past few years. Examples of recent larger projects include:
  - (1) Several major alternative energy projects (wind / solar) in the Prieska, De Aar, Sutherland and Cookhouse / Middleton areas (N. Cape, E. Cape)
  - (2) Palaeontological heritage survey of the Coega IDZ (E. Cape)
  - (3) On-going survey of borrow pits in the Western Cape
  - (4) Palaeontological heritage assessments for the Transnet 16 mtpa railway development, Hotazel to Coega IDZ (N. Cape, E. Cape)
  - (5) Eskom transmission line developments such as Gamma-Omega and Gamma Perseus projects (N. Cape, W. Cape, Free State)
  - (6) Mining exploration studies on the Great Karoo
  - (7) Strategic Environmental Assessment Specialist Report – Heritage (palaeontological component) For National Wind and Solar PV, Shale Gas in the Karoo, Square Kilometre Array
- **Reviews of fossil heritage** related to new 1: 250 000 geological maps published by the Council for Geoscience (Geological Survey of SA) – e.g. Clanwilliam, Loeriesfontein, Alexander Bay sheets.