

# 10 INTEN

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Barnard Gallery in Cape Town is hosting photographer **Lien Botha's** exhibition 'Yonder', a collection of images of objects in striking settings



DEEP KAROO: Swimming Pool, Tankwa-Karoo July 2013, tells of a thirsty land



BEACH LIFE: A self-built home in Proteadorp, near Kleinmond, May 2012



STRANDED: Witdraai I, Kalahari, September 2012, shows a concrete swan far from water



BOK-BOK: Ladismith, December 2011, and a neat, water-wise garden



WINGED WONDER: Natural History Museum, Pretoria, April 2011



OUT TO PASTURE: Rocking Horse in Park, Beaufort West, July 2013



ITEM OF FAITH: Dutch Reformed Church, Richmond, April 2011



GAME'S OVER: A closed fun fair at Gordon's Bay, July 2013,



NICE KITTY: Wollie Wolmarans's 'lionesess', Kleinmond, August 2012



TAKE THE MICKEY: Padstal outside Keimoes, Northern Cape, September 2012

## AFGHANISTAN Presidential election 'less fraudulent than 2009'

THE election to choose a successor to Afghan President Hamid Karzai appeared "less fraudulent" than the scandal-tainted 2009 vote, poll officials said yesterday. Election Complaints Commission chief Abdul Satar Saadat said that, despite 122 complaints against all eight presidential candidates, Saturday's vote was an improvement. It was too soon to say how serious the complaints were. But the leading hopefuls, Abdullah Abdullah, Ashraf Ghani and Zalmay Rassoul, have all voiced concerns about fraud. — *AFP*

## MEXICO No redemption for 'Shawshank' sea

THE idyllic beach that Andy Dufresne chiselled his way out of prison and crawled through sewage for in the film *Shawshank Redemption* has been declared a public health risk. Tests showed the waters of the resort of Zihuatanejo contain almost double the amount of dangerous bacteria declared safe for swimming. The Las Salinas lagoon, which sustains fishing and tourism industries, is brown due to the dumping of waste, and regular swimmers develop skin problems. — *© The Daily Telegraph*

## UK Baby whisked from womb to operating table

A BABY girl has become the youngest open-heart surgery patient in Britain after undergoing a life-saving operation within minutes of being born. Chanel Murrish developed a rare heart condition in the womb that doctors said she was unlikely to survive. Her mother was dissuaded from terminating the pregnancy by scan images apparently showing the baby giving a "thumbs-up". The baby underwent surgery even before she was weighed at birth. She had a second operation at seven days old. — *© The Daily Telegraph*

## ISRAEL Mideast talks remain stalled

US EFFORTS to save Middle East peace talks from collapse showed little sign of progress yesterday amid threats from Israel to retaliate for what it saw as unilateral Palestinian moves towards statehood. The negotiations plunged into crisis last week after Israel failed to release Palestinian prisoners as promised and Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas responded by signing 15 global treaties, including the Geneva Conventions on the conduct of war and occupations, on behalf of the State of Palestine. — *Reuters*

## CHINA Islamists want to ban laughter — official

THE governor of the far western region of Xinjiang wrote yesterday that Islamist militants were trying to ban laughter at weddings and crying at funerals, as he appealed to people to stamp out the "tumour" of extremism. Nur Bekri, chairman of the Uygur Autonomous Region, wrote in a newspaper that separatists and religious extremists had in recent years perpetrated a slew of terrorist attacks. These included last month's stabbing in Kunming city in which 29 civilians were killed and 143 injured at a railway station. — *Reuters*

## HAITI Drought adds to plight of poverty-stricken

ONLY cactuses grow along the dirt road fringing arid fields on the way to the village of Bas des Moustiques, on the outskirts of the northwestern city of Port-de-Paix. A lack of rain in recent months has killed crops in Haiti's poorest region, and left people struggling to survive. Chronic malnutrition was already common among the young, stunting their physical and intellectual growth. Now the drought is directly affecting an additional 143 000 people, according to international relief experts. — *Reuters*

## ZIMBABWE Marange diamonds rake in \$99-million

DIAMOND exports from the Marange fields earned \$99-million at auctions in Belgium and Dubai during the first quarter of 2014, official data showed yesterday. The Marange diamond area, 400km east of Harare, have been the focus of controversy since the invasion and forcible removal of 20 000 small-scale miners in 2008. Human rights groups say as many as 200 people were killed but the government denies the charges and says rights groups have failed to have its precious stones branded conflict diamonds. — *Reuters*

## SOMALIA Foreign UN workers killed at airport

A BRITON and a Frenchman working for the UN were shot dead at a north-central airport yesterday. A witness said they were attacked by a man in a police uniform as they sat in their car at Galkayo airport. Abdi Idris, an official in the semi-autonomous Puntland region, which administers the airport, said the two worked as consultants for the UN anti-drugs agency. The Islamist al-Shabab group "welcomed the killing" but declined to comment when asked if it was responsible. "We urge all Somalis to target the UN," a spokesman said. — *Reuters*

## US 'Anti-gay' wedding photographer rejected

THE US Supreme Court turned away an appeal from a New Mexico wedding photographer found to have violated a state anti-discrimination law when she refused to take pictures of a commitment ceremony for a same-sex couple. Photographer Elaine Huguenin argued unsuccessfully that she was being unconstitutionally forced to convey a message conflicting with her religious beliefs. The rebuff comes as the court weighs a major religious-rights case around the coverage of birth control by employers. — *Bloomberg*

## GERMANY Global warming can still be halted: experts

THE world, acting urgently, can curb carbon emissions enough to avert worst-case scenarios for climate change, UN experts said yesterday as envoys met in Berlin to weigh the options for action. "The literature here shows that deep cuts in greenhouse gas emissions to limit warming to 2°C ... remain possible," said economist Ottmar Edenhofer, an adviser to the UN Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. But achieving this would entail "technological, economic and behaviour change," he said. — *AFP*