Spookdraai at Agulhas and the Radar Base (By SJ du Toit)

Prof C Lohann has written about Spookdraai (a ghostly spot on the road). Apparently visitors to the Agulhas Guest House, just above Spookdraai, refused to stay in a certain room. They were frightened by a woman in old-fashioned dress who entered the room. No one really knows the origin of the appearances of this ghost. There are many opinions. The char of Lettie Myburgh, a L’Agulhas resident, told of a gruesome car accident. The head of one passenger was severed in the crash and it rolled over the road. Some people maintain that the road is haunted.

Lettie is a stalwart in the L’Agulhas community. She played a special role in planting endemic vegetation at the lighthouse grounds. Her enthusiasm and knowledge of many plant species growing in the area, was a great help.

During World War II a radar screen was installed on the L’Agulhas mountain with seamen living in a camp. After the war the camp was sold on auction. Lettie’s father-in-law and five other farmers bought it and divided it into holiday apartments, after refurbishing.

Once, three skeletons were dug out of an open plot. Some people thought that they belonged to those soldiers. This could hardly be so as none of the soldiers was buried there.

L’Agulhas is on the southernmost point of the African continent and at the time there was lots of submarine activity around the coast, therefore the radar screen was necessary. Both men and women were on the camp staff. They had no electricity, and water was brought down from the mountain. The L’Agulhas Hotel held regular dances. The girls at Mount Pleasant Camp were in great demand for the dances.