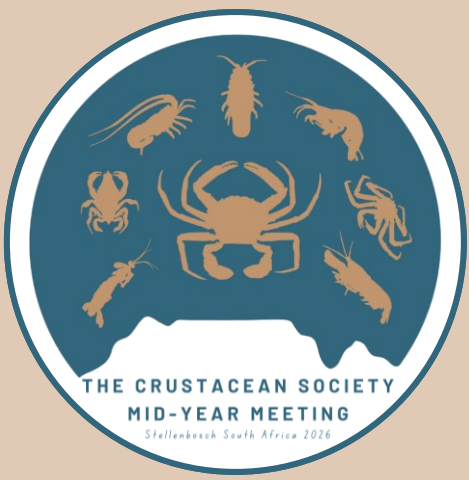


Designed as a global platform for professional carcinologists and enthusiasts alike, The Crustacean Society Mid-Year Meeting 2026 will bring together an anticipated 150 delegates from around the world. Expect a vibrant exchange of cutting-edge research, innovative ideas, and meaningful collaboration—all set against the backdrop of one of Africa's most beautiful and historic academic settings.



**THE CRUSTACEAN SOCIETY
MID-YEAR MEETING**
Stellenbosch South Africa 2026



SAVE *the* DATE

June 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	01	02	03	04	05	06
07	08	09	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

www.tcs2026.com

Important dates

- 01 October 2025 – Abstract submissions open
- 09 January 2026 – Abstract submissions deadline
- 27 February 2026 – Abstract confirmation notices
- 20 March 2026 – Early registration & payment deadline (if PO number is received by this date, the Early Registration Fee will be honoured until payment can be made)
- 24 April 2026 – Regular registration & payment deadline
- 18 May 2026 – Late registration & payment deadline



The Crustacean Society

Meeting Organizers

SAVETCON Event Management
Corné Engelbrecht, CEPA, CMP
+27(0)71 587 2950
corne@savetcon.co.za
www.savetcon.co.za



THE CRUSTACEAN SOCIETY MID-YEAR MEETING

Stellenbosch South Africa 2026

Dear fellow carcinologists,

For the first time ever, the International Crustacean Society Meeting (TCS) is heading to the African continent!

Join us in the breathtaking town of Stellenbosch, nestled in the heart of the Cape Winelands, for the 13th International Crustacean Society Mid-Year Meeting (TCS 2026) which will take place from 1-4 June 2026 at the Stellenbosch Institute for Advanced Study (STIAS), South Africa – a landmark event bringing together global leaders, passionate researchers, and enthusiastic newcomers in the field of crustacean science.

Expect four days of:

- Groundbreaking science & global perspectives.
- Fresh ideas & future-focused collaboration.
- Inspiring settings & warm South African hospitality.

With 150+ delegates from across the globe, this is more than just a meeting – it's a celebration of community, discovery, and progress in the world of carcinology.

Don't miss your chance to be part of this historic moment.

Come for the science, stay for the scenery - and help shape the future of crustacean research on African soil.

TCS 2026: Where the world of crustaceans meets the soul of Africa.

We can't wait to welcome you to Stellenbosch!

The Local Organizing Committee

Dr Nasreen Peer

TCS 2026 Meeting Chairperson
Stellenbosch University

Prof. Savel Daniels

Scientific Programme Chairperson
Stellenbosch University

Dr Jannes Landschoff

Sea Change Project and
Stellenbosch University

Preliminary Programme

SUNDAY 31 MAY 2026

- 14:00 Meeting Registration opens (or from 07:00 on Monday morning)
 - 14:00 Setting up of posters in Auditorium 2 (or from 07:00 on Monday morning)
 - 17:00 Close of registration
-

MONDAY 01 JUNE 2026

- 08:00 Registration Open | Arrival coffee/tea | Poster viewing and networking
 - 08:30 Welcome and Opening
 - 08:45 **Plenary Session 1 - Afrotropical crustacean systematics over the past 40 years**
(Prof. Neil Cumberlidge, Northern Michigan University, USA)
 - 09:30 Oral presentations
 - 10:30 Mid-morning refreshments
 - 11:00 Oral presentations
 - 12:15 Group Photo
 - 12:30 Lunch
 - 13:30 Oral presentations
 - 15:00 Mid-afternoon refreshments
 - 15:30 Oral presentations
 - 17:15 Welcome Reception at STIAS
-

TUESDAY 02 JUNE 2026

- 08:00 Registration Open | Arrival coffee/tea | Poster viewing and networking
 - 08:30 **Plenary Session 2 - Issues faced by small scale fishers in South Africa, with a focus on the west coast rock lobster fishery** *(Prof. Moenieba Isaacs, University of Cape Town, South Africa)*
 - 09:15 Oral presentations
 - 10:45 Mid-morning refreshments
 - 11:15 Oral presentations
 - 12:30 Lunch
 - 13:30 Oral presentations
 - 15:00 Mid-afternoon refreshments
 - 15:30 Oral presentations
 - 16:30 Close of Day 2 – Free evening
-

WEDNESDAY 03 JUNE 2026 - MID-WEEK EXCURSIONS!

THURSDAY 04 JUNE 2026

- 08:00 Registration Open | Arrival coffee/tea | Poster viewing and networking
- 09:00 Scientific Sessions
- 10:30 Mid-morning refreshments
- 11:00 Scientific Sessions
- 12:30 Lunch
- 13:30 **Plenary Session 3 - Unlocking biodiversity data for decisions that make a difference: two decades of research shaping ocean assessment, planning and protection** *(Prof. Kerry Sink, South African National Biodiversity Institute & Dr Lara Atkinson, South African Environmental Observation Network (SAEON) Egagasini Node)*
- 14:15 TCS Annual meeting & next conference bids
- 14:45 Close of Conference & Prize Giving
- 18:00 Gala Dinner @ GOLD Restaurant

Confirmed Plenary Speakers



Prof. Neil Cumberlidge

Professor Emeritus, Department of Biology, Northern Michigan University

Afrotropical crustacean systematics over the past 40 years

Prof. Cumberlidge is an Emeritus Professor in the Department of Biology, Northern Michigan University (NMU), USA and is the former Department Head of Biology.

EDUCATION: B.Sc. (Hons.) in Zoology, Hull University, UK; Postgraduate Certificate in Education (Biology) (P.G.C.Ed.), University of Durham, UK; Ph.D., in Crustacean Physiology, Hull University, UK; D.Sc., in Freshwater Crab Biology, Hull University, Hull, UK. His research interests focus on the taxonomy, systematics, phylogeny, evolution, biogeography, and conservation of African and Madagascan freshwater crabs. He is Chair of the IUCN SSC Freshwater Crustacean Specialist Group, and he led the IUCN Red List global assessment of the freshwater crabs. From his USA lab he maintains active international research collaborations with fellow crustacean specialists across multiple continents (Europe, Africa, Asia, and the Neotropics) and is still active in crustacean research as a Scientific Associate at NMU.



Prof. Moenieba Isaacs

Academic Coordinator and senior researcher at the Institute for Poverty, Land and Agrarian Studies at the University of Western Cape

Issues faced by small scale fishers in South Africa, with a focus on the west coast rock lobster fishery

Prof. Isaacs is the Academic Coordinator and senior researcher at the Institute for Poverty, Land and Agrarian Studies (PLAAS) at the University of Western Cape. Her research areas focus is on understanding the social and political processes of blue justice for small-scale fishers, gender, fish as part of the food system, fisheries reform, Marine Protected Areas, blue economy and biodiversity conservation in South Africa and southern Africa. She has worked extensively with fishing communities, CBOs and NGOs in Southern Africa and internationally to find policy solutions to the problems to the social differentiation in fishing communities. She is an engaged and reflective scholar and always working on finding creative ways to engage with social processes, decision making and policymaking in the context of diverse civil society interests.



Prof. Kerry Sink

Marine Programme Manager and Principal Scientist South African National Biodiversity Institute (SANBI)

Unlocking biodiversity data for decisions that make a difference: two decades of research shaping ocean assessment, planning and protection

Prof. Sink is an inspired and dedicated marine conservation practitioner who has led the Marine Programme at the South African National Biodiversity Institute since 2006. She is also an Associate Professor at the Institute of Coastal and Marine Research at Nelson Mandela University. She has led the marine component of the last three National Biodiversity assessments (2011, 2018 and 2025) but much of her current work is focused on the strengthening and expansion of South Africa's MPA network. Kerry led the Offshore Marine Protected Area project (OMPA) that catalysed a network of spatial management measures, including MPAs, to protect offshore biodiversity and support sustainable use of South Africa's oceans.



Dr Lara Jane Atkinson (Pr.Sci.Nat.)

Offshore Biodiversity Scientist (NRF-SAEON Egagasini Node)

Unlocking biodiversity data for decisions that make a difference: two decades of research shaping ocean assessment, planning and protection

Dr Atkinson's marine research experience spans academic, industry, consulting and government-based frameworks, enabling expertise in a diverse range of topics and depth of knowledge, incorporating pure and applied research. I have been employed as the Offshore Biodiversity Scientist with the National Research Foundation South African Environmental Observation Network since 2010. Her research focuses on developing and implementing long-term monitoring protocols for the offshore benthic environment, specifically epifaunal invertebrates (animals living on the surface of the seabed) and assessing the impacts of human activities.

Call for Abstracts

The TCS 2026 Programme Committee is inviting abstracts for both oral and poster consideration for the Crustacean Society Mid-Year Meeting 2026, under the following themes.

Aquaculture

Biodiversity,
conservation and
invasion: land to sea

Ecotoxicology and
diseases

Marine research:
intertidal
to deep ocean

Parasitic crustacea

Phylogenetics and
genomics: recent
developments and
advances

Physiology and
ecology

Reproduction,
development and
larval biology

Resource
Management

Systematics,
taxonomic
and biogeography

Important dates

- 01 October 2025 – Abstract submission open
- 09 January 2026 – Abstract submission deadline
- 27 February 2026 – Abstract confirmation notices
- 16 March 2026 – All accepted speakers to be registered

**SUBMIT YOUR
ABSTRACT HERE**



Presentation Types

- Oral Presentation: 20-minute presentation, comprising of a 15-minute presentation + 5 minutes for questions.
- Printed Poster Presentations: Dedicated Poster Session.

General Requirements

- The presenting author will be required to register for the Meeting to ensure their abstract(s) is included in the final programme.
- All submissions must be completed electronically via the online submission facility. If you are unable to submit in this manner, please contact the Programme Coordinator, Corné Engelbrecht at corne@savetcon.co.za for further information.
- All abstracts must be prepared according to the guidelines provided. Abstracts will only be accepted if submitted within the format and layout guidelines.
- There is no limit to the number of abstracts that may be submitted by an individual. However, splitting of a body of work into multiple abstracts is discouraged and consolidation into one abstract is preferred.
- At the discretion of the Scientific Committee, a maximum of two abstracts may be accepted into the scientific programme where there is the same lead author.
- Authors are required to acknowledge that by submitting an abstract, permission is automatically given for the abstract (if approved) to be made available on the website and possibly published more broadly.

Abstract Guidelines

- All abstracts must be submitted in English and via the online system.
- All submitted abstracts must comply with the submission guidelines and will be peer-reviewed.
- If you are submitting more than one abstract you must use the same login for each abstract.
- As submitting author, you will receive all communications regarding the submitted abstract(s).
- The maximum length of an abstract is 300 words. Abstracts may also include one table or figure. Please ensure that research findings are described to a level sufficient for reviewers to make an informed decision on scientific quality. Abstracts that fail to meet these criteria will be rejected.
- Abstracts must be free of typographical and grammatical errors.
- Standard abbreviations may be used for common terms only. Otherwise, any abbreviation should be given in brackets after the first full use of the word. Abbreviations may be used in the title, provided the name in full is outlined in the body of the abstract.
- You will be asked to provide a short biography (up to 150 words) with your submission.
- You will be asked to nominate your preference for poster or oral presentation.
- Please include degrees or professional titles (e.g. Dr, Prof., etc.).
- It is the author's responsibility to ensure the title, author and affiliation details entered in the paper submission site are correct and exactly as they should be published on the abstract and all Symposium materials.
 - Do not include author names in the title or body of your abstract – these are entered online during the submission process.
- You can alter your abstract at any time up to the submission deadline – after this date changes will not be possible.
- Abstracts will be reviewed and authors notified of the outcome of the review process.
- There is no limit to the number of abstracts on which an author may be listed.

Registration Information

All persons attending the meeting must complete the online registration form.

Registration Timelines

- Early Registration (08 September 2025 – 20 March 2026)*
- Regular Registration (21 March 2026 – 24 April 2026)
- Late Registration (25 April 2026 – 18 May 2026)

** If Purchase Orders from academic institutions or organizations are received by this date, the Early Registration Fee will be honoured until payment can be made.*

Registration Payments

To be entitled to the early registration fee you must have registered and paid by the early registration closing date or provided the Conference Organisers with a Purchase Order from your institution.

Payment Options

- Quotation for Purchase Order generation
- Invoice (EFT), or Credit Card – VISA, MasterCard (via Payfast or PayPal)
- All fees will be processed in ZAR.
- Fees can be invoiced in GBP, USD, or EUR. Please note that a credit card transaction fee will apply to cover foreign exchange and processing costs.

NB: payment not received by the advertised due date will automatically be carried over to the next payment category unless prior arrangement has been made with the organisers.

Visa Letters

Visa assistance letters will only be issued on receipt of payment of registration fees. For more information, [CLICK HERE](#).

Terms and Conditions

Please [CLICK HERE](#) to read the registration terms and conditions.

Registration Categories

- TCS Members
- Non-TCS Members
- Students (*Valid Student number and Proof of registration for 2025/2026 is required*)*

Accompanying Persons

- Accompanying Persons – Social Functions

**Student – To be able to register as an undergrad or postgrad student, delegates must upload proof of full-time enrolment at a recognized university or college at both the time of registration and during the meeting. A copy of your student identification card (PDF or jpeg) must be uploaded onto the registration system.*

Group Registrations

For all Group Registrations (5+), kindly contact Corné Engelbrecht at corne@savetcon.co.za

REGISTER



Registration Fees

FULL ATTENDANCE*		DAY ONLY ATTENDANCE**	
Early Registrations (until 20 March 2026)		Early Registrations (per day)	
Full Registration	R 8,500.00	Full Day Registration	R 2,900.00
Full TCS Member	R 6,500.00	Day TCS Member	R 2,200.00
Full Students	R 5,000.00	Day Students	R 1,700.00
Regular Registrations (until 24 April 2026)		Regular Registrations (per day)	
Full Registration	R 9,500.00	Full Day Registration	R 3,200.00
TCS Member	R 7,500.00	Day TCS Member	R 2,500.00
Students	R 6,000.00	Day Students	R 2,000.00
Late Registrations (until 18 May 2026)		Late Registrations (per day)	
Full Registration	R10,500.00	Full Day Registration	R3,500.00
TCS Member	R8,500.00	Day TCS Member	R2,900.00
Students	R7,000.00	Day Students	R2,400.00
<i>*Includes attendance to Welcome Reception</i>		<i>**Excludes attendance to Welcome Reception</i>	

Social Functions	
Welcome reception (included in your full attendance)	R 0.00
Welcome reception (day attendance & accompanying persons)	R400.00
Gala Dinner (all attendees)	R1,250.00
Mid-Week Excursion – Snorkelling in Simonstown Windmill Beach	R1,200.00
Mid-Week Excursion - Iziko Museums and Collections	R650.00
Mid-Week Excursion - Full-day Mystery Wine Tour Experience	R3,800.00
Mid-Week Excursion - West Coast Fossil Park	R950.00

Promotional Item	
T-Shirts	R250.00

Included in your fees

Registration for full attendance includes:

- Electronic e-Programme and Abstract Book.
- Conference bag.
- Arrival refreshments.
- Morning break refreshments.
- Lunches.
- Welcome reception.
- *EXCLUDED: Social Excursion and Gala Dinner*

Registration for full attendance accompanying person includes:

- Arrival refreshments.
- Morning break refreshments.
- Lunches.
- *EXCLUDED: Attendance to Programme Sessions, Welcome reception, Social Excursion and Gala Dinner.*

Registration for day attendance includes:

- Electronic e-Programme and Abstract Book.
- Conference bag.
- Arrival refreshments (on day of attendance).
- Morning break refreshments (on day of attendance).
- Lunch (on day of attendance).
- *EXCLUDED: Welcome Reception, Social Excursion and Gala Dinner.*

Social Excursions

The following mid-week excursions will be available to book for Wednesday 03 June 2026.
Choose from any of the four options available.

IZIKO MUSEUMS AND COLLECTIONS

COST: R650.00 per person

The South African Museum, founded in 1825 and situated in the historic Company’s Gardens, has seen millions of visitors, attracted by the vast historical collection the museum has to offer, ranging from fossils to ancient insects and historical tools. A visit to this museum is not only culturally enriching, but the impressive natural collection will also ignite a spark of interest in learning more about the creatures with which we share our planet. Iziko Museums’ collections represent South Africa’s diverse and dynamic social and cultural histories, artworks from across Africa and abroad, and the immense variety of wonders from the natural world. Scholars and researchers at Iziko Museums – and from across the globe – access these vast collections to research, better understand, and expand upon our knowledge; and you too can explore Iziko’s collections.

Includes:

- Museum entry | Snack Pack | Transport to and from Iziko

WEST COAST FOSSIL PARK

COST: R950.00 per person

Discover a time when the West Coast was wild & lush! See the fossils of bears, sabre-tooth cats, short-necked giraffes and the many other exotic animals which inhabited the west coast area some 5 million years ago. In 1998 a team of professional archaeologists and palaeontologists began excavating the current dig site that is open to the public. Dr Roger Smith heads up the current “public” excavation site which is dominated by numerous sivathere remains. The particular species of sivathere found here is named after Brett Hendey, Sivatherium hendeyi. A number of the fossils were removed and are now housed at the Iziko National Museum in Cape Town. However, some of the excavation has been preserved in situ (in their original place) so that members of the public can learn about this site and the amazing animals that have been discovered here.

Includes:

- Entry fee to Park | Snack pack | Transport to and from nature reserve

SNORKELLING IN SIMONSTOWN WINDMILL BEACH

COST: R1,200.00 per person

Whether you’ve never been in the ocean before or you were born a water baby, this experience is catered for everyone. Join us for an unforgettable ocean experience with KhoiScouts Adventures.

Includes:

- A brief presentation on False Bay’s unique ecosystem, its communities, and rich biodiversity.
- A calm yoga stretching and slow breathing session
- A guided snorkel exploration in Simonstown Windmill Beach(MPA)
- Snorkelling gear included—wetsuits, masks, snorkels, fins, and floating buoys for safety.
- Snack Pack | Transport to and from Simonstown

FULL-DAY MYSTERY WINE TOUR EXPERIENCE

COST: R3,800.00 per person

Our itinerary remains a secret, but rest assured, every moment will be filled with exceptional wines, delightful accompaniments, and unforgettable experiences. Visit three carefully selected wineries, where you’ll indulge in:

- Wine and canapé pairings or nibbles (with a hint of spirits)
- Exclusive tastings, expertly curated to surprise and delight

Includes:

- Tasting fees at 3 selected wineries
- Certified expert guide leading intimate wine tastings, sharing in-depth knowledge and insider insights
- Air-conditioned Transportation
- Lunch (We apologize, but our Mystery Wine Tour cannot accommodate special dietary needs)

Accommodation

Hotel and apartment style accommodation can be reserved in Stellenbosch through the intermediary of Turners DMC who has secured preferred rates for participants. All hotel rates quoted on the booking form are in South African Rands and are per room and per night, breakfast and service taxes included. Apartment accommodation is based on self-catering, no meals included, rates are per apartment and per night. Hotel and apartment category should be indicated on the booking form. Please also indicate which other category we should book in case the chosen one is fully booked. Accommodation establishments are within close proximity to the STIAS in Stellenbosch.

The following hotels and apartments have been especially reserved for the meeting and preferential rates have been negotiated on behalf of the event. Hotel rates include full English Breakfast Buffet, VAT at 15% and Tourism Levy of 1%. Apartment is self-catering, no meals included.

All published prices are subject to change without prior notice. This may be due to currency regulations and/or changes in duties or Government taxes.

Single Occupancy Room: King or Queen bed in room with one occupant

Double Occupancy Room: King or Queen bed in room with two occupants sharing

Twin Sharing Room: Two ¾ Beds or two standard double beds in room with two occupants sharing



**Currency
Converter**



Oude Werf Hotel ★★★★★

Stellenbosch Central - Located 1.3Km from STIAS

Comfy King Room - Single Occupancy	ZAR 2,177.00
Comfy Twin Room - Twin Sharing	ZAR 2,581.00
Comfy King Room - Double Occupancy	ZAR 2,581.00
Plenty King Room - Single Occupancy	ZAR 2,737.00
Plenty Twin Room - Twin Sharing	ZAR 3,141.00
Plenty King Room - Double Occupancy	ZAR 3,141.00



Protea by Marriott Stellenbosch ★★★★★

Stellenbosch Central - Located 6.9Km from STIAS

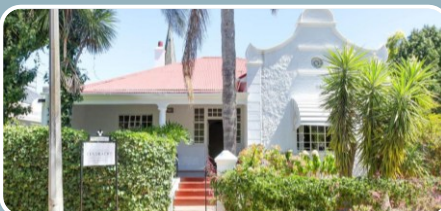
Standard King Room - Single Occupancy	ZAR 1,967.00
Standard Twin Room - Twin Sharing	ZAR 2,469.00
Standard King Room - Double Occupancy	ZAR 2,469.00



The Stellenbosch Hotel ★★★★★

Stellenbosch Central - Located 1.4km from STIAS

Petit Queen Room - Single Occupancy	ZAR 1,512.00
Classic Queen Room - Single Occupancy	ZAR 2,012.00
Classic Twin Room - Twin Sharing	ZAR 2,312.00
Classic Queen Room - Double Occupancy	ZAR 2,312.00



Eendracht Apartments (self catering) ★★★★★

Stellenbosch Central - Located 1.3Km from STIAS

(Limited Apartments Available)

1-Bedroom Apartment Self-Catering - Single Occupancy	ZAR 1,336.00
2-Bedroom Apartment Self-Catering - Double Occupancy	ZAR 2,005.00



BOOK NOW

Sponsorship Opportunities

Industry involvement is one of the key elements to the success of TCS 2026.

The Meeting provides several Sponsorship and Exhibition opportunities to suit your organisation's requirements and objectives, with great benefits. We will also offer you the ability to customise/tailor your preferred package to meet your specific marketing and budgetary requirements.

Your presence and contribution enhance the overall scientific impacts of the Meeting – through promotional opportunities, scientific exchange and community engagement. In principle, all sponsors will be treated on a “first come, first served” basis and will be mentioned in all Meeting Publications, such as the Final Programme and the Meeting Website.

On behalf of the Organising Committee, we look forward to welcoming you as a valued Partner, Sponsor or Exhibitor at the Meeting.

Benefits of supporting the Conference

- 3-days of scientific presentations.
- Promotion of cutting-edge scientific research.
- Exclusive opportunities to exchange ideas with renowned professionals from across the world.
- Provides an ideal networking forum.
- Offers unique exposure to worldwide markets.

Why participate as a sponsor?

- Increase your pre-conference exposure through marketing coverage (website/social media/mailers).
- Raise your profile above your competitors.
- Increase recognition and drive traffic to your exhibition / website.
- Marketing platform through branding and acknowledgement
- Deliver a greater ROI. Sponsoring an event can often be cheaper and have a higher return on investment than a TV commercial or other advertising methods.
- Increase your company's perceived image – sponsoring such a big, international and reputable event will provide the impression that your company is a reputable one.
- Gain the respect and credibility of your target audience.

Why participate as an exhibitor?

- **Branding** – if you exhibit then you are more likely to be considered a serious industry player. Raise your company's visibility, increase your brand awareness and highlight your company's presence as an active and important player in the industry.
- **Focus** – Provide a base to interact with an international audience. Generate new business for your products and services.
- **Network** – Our exhibition spaces are located in the heart of the networking and catering areas, giving you the opportunity to network with colleagues, potential customers and leaders in the industry.
- **Visibility** – you might have a strong online presence, but to strengthen and grow, there also needs to be a real visibility. People buy from people.
- **Market intelligence** – get to know your competitors and their products.
- Launch new products and services.
- Strengthen current product popularity.
- Generate sales leads.
- Reach new specific markets.
- Meet with sector specific audience.
- Keep up on industry trends and products that compliment your business.
- Be recognised.



**Contact us
for the
Sponsorship
Prospectus**



**THE CRUSTACEAN SOCIETY
MID-YEAR MEETING**
Stellenbosch South Africa 2026

**For more information on
TCS 2026, visit our website
www.tcs2026.com
or contact our
Meeting Organizers through
Corné Engelbrecht at
corne@savetcon.co.za**



The Crustacean Society