



Issue 2, 2017



Protect our environment

26TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Date: 2nd December 2017

Venue: The Bioscope, Wakkerstroom

Guest speaker: Bernice Mclean

Topic: Sustainable seafood - what's the fuss?

Bernice is a marine policy specialist with a strong interest in ocean governance and sustainable fisheries. She has a background in archaeology and environmental management and currently works on strengthening fisheries governance throughout Africa. Bernice completed her PhD at the University of Delaware, USA, with a focus on coastal policy development in South Africa and Tanzania. Prior to her focus on fisheries, Bernice worked as a specialist consultant on numerous national and regional marine, coastal and environmental governance and conservation initiatives in sub-Saharan Africa and the Western Indian Ocean region. Bernice is also a resident of Wakkerstroom

Food and drink will be on sale after the AGM as part of fundraising. Please advise Daphne on wnha.secretary@gmail.com for catering purposes.

All members will receive a proxy and agenda within the next few weeks.

PROJECT UPDATES

Signage

WNHA Village and Wetland map and directional signboards available for a 3-year sponsorship period. Add your branding and voice to protect our local heritage.

There are **two** Village and Wetland map signboards available at R1500 and **four** Hide directional signboards available for sponsorship at R660.

Contact Graham or Rupert for more details for two signs below.



David Nkosi at Fickland Pan with the newly replaced signboard



The WoW Hide – a joint partnership

WAKKERSTROOM WALKS & TRAILS AND SPRING ALIVE

As a joint venture, WW&T and the Spring Alive South Africa Project coordinator, Kristi Garland from BirdLife South Africa, hosted the annual Heritage Day walk around the village. Not only did we explore the history of our area but dived a little deeper into the resources developed for the 2017 spring season.

Kristi showcased the famous “Ringo” and the recently developed children’s e-book. This book follows the life’s journey of Ringo, a White Stork, from humble beginnings in Parey, Germany to finally arriving in Wakkerstroom. Concepts of migration are carefully incorporated into the story making it a little easier to understand. Not to mention the tribulations these majestic birds face along their way to South Africa.

Kristi is extremely grateful for the assistance of Judy-Lynn Wheeler in writing the story line and to Carol Preston for all the illustrations. This is a Wakkerstroom product beyond words! The resources were presented at the International Steering Committee meeting, held recently in Gdansk, Poland. The committee is extremely excited about Ringo and have given the go-ahead for BirdLife South Africa to develop the remaining species stories. These include the European Bee-eater, Common Cuckoo, Barn Swallow and Common Swift.

As mentioned, the Ringo story is only available in electronic format. We are investigating fundraising options to have this and the other stories printed. If you have any suggestions or ideas, please contact Kristi on kristi.garland@birdlife.org.za.

LITTER INITIATIVE

The recently held vlei cleanup was a huge success with a total of 55 bags of tins, used diapers and various plastic bottles and bags collected from the watercourse, banks and the surrounding vlei area. Thank you to the 45 participants who braved the gale force wind on the day, making a contribution to cleaning up our greatest asset – the vlei. With the next cleanup being planned for March 2018, we hope that there will be less waste we need to deal with. The area below eSizameleni, on the way out of Wakkerstroom on the R543, is being cleaned up by Gys Roos and his team before the rains come in earnest. Thank you Gys! This will prevent all that rubbish from being swept into the vlei.

WATCH THIS SPACE! ONE DAY THERE WILL BE NO LITTER HERE!

Photography Competition

Theme: Wakkerstroom at a Glance

Email your entry to wackersbirdclub@gmail.com

Below are the September finalists each winning a R100-00 voucher from Suikerbekkie Bakery

