

**CHIT-CHAT NO.7**  
**FROM**  
**WAKKERSTROOM.**

Dear Frozen Wakkerstroemers,

August is finally here - one more month to spring - yippee - I can't wait to get the old veggie garden going again!

- 1) Well it looks like the speed humps are all done. I know we all wanted them and needed them badly but I am not sure they needed to be as high as they are!! I see some have already got some serious scrapes on them. The Volksrust Recorder even had a little article about the humps, thanking the Department of Public Works, Roads and Transport. However, a couple of people have commented on the fact that some of the big trucks are now taking a detour down the two parallel roads to avoid the humps. Hopefully we can get some traffic cops to monitor this and get it stopped.
- 2) WACKY KNITTERS - Many thanks to the generous people who have dropped off bags of wool. The knitting ladies are delighted as they have many projects on the go at the moment. They knit for Penny Fox's orphans and donate many children's jerseys to CMR in Volksrust. At the moment they are busy putting together a Christmas hamper to raffle at Christmas. There are some divine goodies in there so watch this space!!!!
- 3) BIRDCLUB - The Bird Club had their CAR COUNT this last weekend and by all accounts a lovely day was had by all. Some

were lucky enough to go on totally new routes so they got to see more of the area.

- 4) THE FLUFFTAIL HIDE - The devastating fire which destroyed Flufftail Hide, arguably the best hide of them all, was a serious blow to the birding facilities here in Wakkerstroom. The fire was caused by a Flashover on an Eskom line and, although they accepted responsibility for the fire, somehow the funds were lost in the bureaucracy and were not forthcoming to rebuild the hide. The Good News is that a team at Birdlife SA are in the process of designing a new hide - fireproof. There will probably be a shortfall in the funds available and the Bird Club will be organising fund raising projects to assist. When you hear about these functions, please support!
- 5) WAKKIES BIRD CLUB - is a Whatsapp group on which members can instantly report any particularly interesting sightings so that anybody with access to Whatsapp can drop everything and go and look for themselves!!
- 6) WOMEN'S DAY LUNCH - This exciting event will take place at Papillon on the 9<sup>th</sup> August. They have managed to get an accomplished youngster from Volksrust who plays the flute. I read an article in the Volksrust Recorder about this young lady and she appears to be really good at everything she does. Not only does she play the flute but she is also extremely good at tent pegging (on her horse). Her name is Tisha Willemse. Please phone Hannie for bookings at 082 854 5465.
- 7) BIRDLIFE - Kristi is hosting a group of school children at Birdlife on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> August. It is a group of 120 Grade 11 and 12 learners who are studying tourism for matric. Other than information talks they will also be taken down to the

wetland. Good Luck Kristi - I hope you have beautiful weather that day and the learners really get to enjoy themselves.

- 8) **WAKKERSTROOM CENTRAL** - Carol has the second themed exhibition of local artists work at The Gallery at Wakkerstroom Central. This theme is animals and birds in various media. It is exciting to see that apart from paintings this time, there are also a few very interesting sculptures. If you missed the opening last Saturday then wander in and have a look. You won't be disappointed!
- 9) **VOTING** - Voting day on Wednesday everyone- you need to pop along sometime during the day and put your cross. In these days it is vitally important that everyone votes! Then you can pop along to either The Meelsak or Oude Stasie. Both are serving a meal the whole day to support the voters. Meelsak is serving Chicken Curry and pot bread or Oxtail and Oude Stasie is serving Chicken a la King.
- 10) **BOOKLOVE** - Apart from the selection of books available on the BOOKLOVE table each Saturday between 08.45 and 12.15, a large and growing collection of donated books, which continuously "feed" the table, is stored at the Andersons' home. So, if there's a specific author or title you're looking for, tell Marian (who so faithfully mans the table each week) and she'll record your request and pass it on to Moira who will find or look out for it for you.
- 11) **BUS TO NEWCASTLE** - The Dana bus's next trip to Newcastle is the 12<sup>th</sup> August. The round trip will cost you R60. Just think - you get to save on the petrol costs and the car guard fees! If you are interested please phone Maisie 017 7300779.

- 12) WILLOW TREES - I am looking for a half grown willow tree to transplant into my garden. If you are looking to get rid of one please phone me. Sue 0823785637
- 13) CRECHE - We are looking for a number of things to outfit a crèche. If you are planning on a little clean up please could you look for the following; toys, children's books, magazines, crayons, kokis, paint, plasticine, paper, chalk and old ice cream cartons? Please could you drop them at the info centre.
- 14) TUESDAY MOVIES - Nigel is away this Tuesday so no movies this week.
- 15) CLAY EDU CENTRE - In September 2015, Kelsie Smith, together with her extended family, who are all long-term holiday residents of the village were enjoying lunch at the Bistro. The entertainment that day was a group of young dancers from "Clay", tutored and nurtured by Nonhlanhla Nzibande. Kelsie was so moved by their joyful performance that she promised to do something to help further the work of Clay Edu Centre. This commitment resulted in Kelsie returning to the High School where she teaches Art to Matric students, persuading the Principal and Staff to support her concept of a Charity Dinner for the growth of creativity in a small rural village. The Matric students caught her infectious spirit and together last term, they laid on a most successful evening, raising over R19 000,00. Kelsie drove down from Johannesburg to visit the children of Clay on Monday. Together they created a Mandela Day banner, and Kelsie presented the monies towards the Clay Edu Land Fund. This money will be held in trust and go towards suitable land or premises for the NPO to continue and grow.

16) LITTER - Carol Preston is trying to establish a WNHA Litter initiative. The enormity of the project is beginning to dawn on her as all the programmes that have been instituted so far have all failed because people want to be paid for work done and therefore are unsustainable. She feels that the programme she puts in place must be carefully planned and the follow through must be ongoing over a long period of time. She feels that she must show and teach rather than instruct and reward. The reward needs to be seen as a clean environment rather than a reward in financial terms. We wish you well Carol because if you can make some break through we will all benefit from less litter lying around.

Happy voting everyone!

Sue 0823785637