

CHIT - CHAT

FROM WAKKERSTROOM

15 JANUARY 2017

Dear people from Wakkerstroom,

- 1) **FROGGING WEEKEND** - For those of you that missed the frogging weekend, you missed loads of fun. There were a number of very enthusiastic froggers (mostly from Natal) who took everyone around the vlei to hunt for frogs and identify frog calls. We all arrived at Birdlife dressed in wellington boots and headlamps and off we set. Lesley's daughter Hayley was the star of the show - she found the first minute little frog. It definitely takes young eyes!! Kristi says this is going to become a yearly event so Wakkerstroomers be ready for next year
- 2) **HONKY TONK EVENING** - This event will take place at Papillon on the 4th Feb at 18h00. Tickets are for sale at Crow's Nest at R75 per person. You need to arrive and EAT, DRINK and be MERRY! Bangers and mash and mushy peas and gravy will be your supper and of course there will be a cash bar. This sounds like a fun evening and a good blast for the beginning of the year.
- 3) **CAR BOOT SALE** - on 28th January at DeKotzenhof - Mark will be selling bacon rolls. Just remember one man's trash is another man's treasure - so pop along - you might find all sorts of things that you really need.
- 4) **POOL NIGHT** - There will be a pool night at the Crowned Crane on Friday 20th Jan from 17h00 till late.
- 5) **BRING AND BRAAI** - Also at Crowned Crane on Sunday from 12h00. Bring your own meat and Eric will cook it for you. Salads are available as well as a cash bar. What a lovely way to catch up and schmooze and you don't even have to wash the dishes.
- 6) **COFFEE AND CAKE MORNING** - Will begin again this year on Monday 30th Jan at DeKotzenhof. Please book so that there will be enough cake for all!
- 7) **OSSEWA KNOT** - The **Working** on Fire team will be clearing all the overgrown grass and bush around the knot on 8th- 12th May. Once it is cleared we can get onto the job of painting everything. Any volunteers???
- 8) **CHIT- CHAT** - The next one will only be done in the middle of Feb. I am leaving for China this week to see my grandchild and will be away for awhile. Please collect any snippets of news and e mail them to me after the 20th Feb.
- 9) **FEMALE GOAT WANTED** - Petrus (otherwise known as Patrick) is looking to buy a female goat. Any offers please phone Wendy on 082 895 7776 if you can help.
- 10) **WATER** - If you have had enough of the water problem please phone Ms Zonke on 071 673 0438 and Mr Ngomo on 076 662 5482 about the water. It is now getting to a ridiculous stage.

The more we communicate with them, the better chances of having this fixed permanently. It is a ridiculous situation and it needs to be addressed urgently.

- 11) **WATER AGAIN** - This is a copy of an article sent to the Volksrust Recorder on 15th January - -- Wakkerstroom residents have been struggling with their local municipality about the domestic water supply in town. This situation arose several years ago, and the WTA contacted the National Department of Water Affairs, who sent a representative to inspect the erratic provision of water. He found that one of the pumps was on its last legs, in very poor condition, and the stand-by pump was completely broken. This information was widely distributed to the public servants involved, but now the situation has reached crises point. On both the Christmas and New Year weekends, and again today, Sunday 15th January there is no water supply at all to most of the village. On both Friday and Saturday the water supply was a dribble, with insufficient pressure to even have a shower for large parts of the day. About a week ago, it was found that water had been released from Martin's Dam over several days and this had led to a blocked pipe- blocked due to lack of maintenance in weed clearance. The above information is conjecture, because there is insufficient communication from the authorities. There are platforms such as Wakkerstroom Group where correct information could be placed so that residents were aware of what is going on. Wakkerstroom depends on its tourism trade to remain economically viable. Not only for those who have accommodation to offer in town, but even more importantly for the residents of e Sizameleni who are employed in such venues. The inconvenience not only to residents but to visitors will lead to a poor reputation and to expect visitors to come back to a town so poorly serviced is unrealistic when there are many alternatives. Ultimately it is all the people of the village who will suffer from this lack of efficient service delivery.
- 12) **MUSIC FESTIVAL** - The Wakkerstroom Music Festival is only two months away and the WMF is once again appealing for accommodation for the musicians during the festival. If you can help please contact Grant at 082 552 6650. In appreciation, you and your partner will be entitled to a complimentary concert ticket of your choice (excluding the Gala Concert) as well as a gift voucher to the amount of R230 which you will be able to spend at a sponsoring shop or restaurant in Wakkerstroom.
- 13) **PERSONAL GROWTH** - A quick reminder - Libby Lamour is hosting a PRH information morning on Thursday 9th Feb at 10.00 at the Dana Dienssentrum. If you would like to contact Libby her numbers are 082 862 9700 and 017 730 0006. For those of you who might miss this presentation - Libby did say she was considering doing another one later in the year. Watch this space!!
- 14) **OPENING MYSELF TO REALITIES GREATER THAN ME Also** facilitating by: Libby is a self-exploratory workshop using writing and art. Libby, incidentally, is licenced with the International School of Personality & Human Relations. The workshop will be run between the 27th and 30th January between the hours of 9am to 5pm at The Shed, Cranmore Lodge, 230 Uys Street. A fee based on a sliding scale of income will be levied on participants. Contact Libby on 017 730 0006 or 0828629790 for booking or more information
- 15) **BICYCLES FOR HIRE** - Carol Preston has 4 mountain bikes available for hire at R75 a day plus a refundable deposit! Maybe you could take a ride around the village or ride out to the vlei for a bit of birding.

- 16) **WAKKERSTROOM CENTRAL ART SCHEDULE** - The next theme for paintings or art is called "Wakkerstroom Historical Buildings "These need to be ready by 25th February.
- 17) **CRAFT WORKSHOPS** - On 11th February - you will be making Valentine Cards. Anyone interested please phone Carol Preston or contact Wakkerstroom Central.
- 18) **QIGONG** - E mail from Claudine Spencer - Would you like to participate in a weekly or bi-weekly exercise group? If yes, here is a bit of info --- The benefits of Qigong (pronounced Chi Kung) include the following : improvement of muscular strength , more flexibility, improved fitness, improved immunity, better sleep, pain relief, improves quality of life, The slow gentle movements of most Qigong forms can be easily adapted, even for the physically challenged, and can be practised by all age groups. Should you like to find out more about this form of exercise, please email Claudine to indicate your interest. She will then set up a get together to tell you all more about this wonderful form of exercise.

Most people seem to really enjoy the Chit Chat and are most complimentary and happy to receive the news but I also hear that there are one or two people who are not too happy about the news that is written in Chit Chat. This makes me sad as I am doing it totally voluntarily and am just relaying everyone's news and announcements to keep the village people informed of happenings. If you do not want to receive the Chit-Chat please (by all means) let me know and we will take you off the mailing list.

Hope everyone has enjoyed all the lovely rain we have had. The weeds in my garden have loved it!

Sue

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