

CHIT - CHAT  
FROM WAKKERSTROOM  
22FEBRUARY 2017

Dear wet Wakkerstroomers,

Wow!! What wonderful rain. In spite of all the mud, how nice is it to see water running all over the place. The farmers must be dancing with glee!!

I am finally back from a divine 5-week holiday. My stay in China was awesome and I spent fantastic quality time with my family.

- 1) **CONDOLENCES** - to the Wiesemann family for the sad deaths of a much-loved daughter-in-law, followed a few days later by her Mother. Our thoughts and love are with you Rita and Berthus!
  
- 2) **NEW INFO CENTRE** -As you may be aware, the info centre will be moving to new premises in the refurbished old cinema building. We are hoping to move this weekend and we are taking very little from the existing info centre with us. Ina and Ian have very kindly furnished the new info centre for us and done a wonderful job in making it welcoming and professional. If you have given or loaned anything to the old info centre please could you collect said items before Friday. Many thanks for all the stuff that was used in the old centre.
  
- 3) **VOLUNTEERS** - We have a number of dedicated volunteers that work in the info centre and they have been awesome this past year. Seldom has anyone let us down and they have been friendly and professional in their approach to visitors. However I still need a couple more people to help spread the load. If you feel you have a spare morning or afternoon and would like to become part of the info centre in this town we would love to have you. Please phone me (Sue) if you can could possibly help.
  
- 4) **TRESTLE TABLES** - The Bird Club has recently been given a large quantity of books for re-sale and they need to be sorted so can be sold at a book sale. Sorting them requires space and they are appealing for the temporary loan of a few 6ft metal or trestle type tables. The tables will be safely stored under cover in the garage in town. If you can help please phone Brian on 083 415 6701

5)

- 6) **WWT** - The walking group meets every Tuesday morning. We have a walk around various areas in town and end up enjoying a cup of coffee before we head home. If you feel the need for a little gentle exercise we would love to have you join us. On Tuesday 28 Feb we will meet at Carol Preston's house at 7.00am.
  
- 7) **EASTER MARKET** - Easter is fast approaching and it would be wonderful if we had an Easter Market in town. We cannot wait till a week or so before Easter - if this market is to take place the Wakkerstroom people need to start planning asap. An Easter Market has historically been very successful in Wakkerstroom and now is the time to start planning such an event with gusto. If there are any interested parties could you perhaps contact CLAUDINE this week so that a planning meeting can kick off.
  
- 8) **THE GALLERY** - Please join us for the opening of the first themed exhibition in 2017 of local artists work at The Gallery, Wakkerstroom Central. Come and enjoy new work by artists working in and around Wakkerstroom, with the theme of Wakkerstroom Historical Buildings in various media. It will be held on Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> Feb at 16h00 in Badenhorst Street.
  
- 9) **WAKKERSTROOM BIRD CLUB AGM** - This will be held this year on Saturday 4th March at 11.30 at Birdlife. See you all there. This is an AGM not to be missed as the Bird Club are fortunate in having Mark Anderson, CEO of Bird Life South Africa, to give a talk and it would be wonderful, and appreciated, if there was an appropriate turnout. The talk will be followed by a Bring and Braai where any further questions for Mark or the committee could be aired.
  
- 10) **WACKY KNITTERS** - The Wacky Knitters started 2017 on a very positive theme. They have 2 projects to keep the old needles busy. The first project is to help first time Mothers with a "Welcome starter pack ". This pack will consist of a baby blanket, nappy, nappy pin, new born jersey, beanie, booties, soap, flannel. The knitters have excelled themselves and in fact have produced amazing knitted baby clothes. These packs will be kept in the Wakkerstroom Clinic. The second project is to help children who are orphans losing both parents and grandparents. For these children our knitting group will be donating this year's knitted teddies for the little children to cuddle as comforters. The Wacky Knitters are extremely grateful to Marilyn Jones who has requested a charity "kidneybeanz" to help us and we have received the most fantastic blankets etc. They have also been in touch with another charity "Growth Point "who are willing to help. Thank you to all the wonderful Wakkerstroom friends for their donations of bags of wool, knitting needles, knitting books and for emptying their button boxes.

- 11) **QUIZ EVENING** - The next quiz evening will take place on 10 March at Crowned Crane. The last two have been really successful and good fun was had by all. If you want to book a table please phone me at 0823785637 so we can get going. This is a wonderful way to rattle those aging brain cells!!!!
- 12) **CAR BOOT SALE** - The next car boot sale at DeKotzenhof will take place on Saturday 25 March. Boerie Rolls will be on sale at this very social event.
- 13) **REFILL SHOP** - I don't know if you are aware of the yummy grub Anton is selling on a Monday, Friday and Saturday. He has Boerie Rolls, Vetkoek and pancakes for sale! Sounds divine!
- 14) **BUTCHERY** - Rita and John are closing the Butchery at the end of February and the shop will be put on the market. Hope you both enjoy your well - earned rest - I myself am going to really miss your sausages and the "wit gat Sprees" are going to miss their daily snack of mince!!
- 15) **YOGHURT TUBS** - Rosemarie Weber is no longer collecting yoghurt tubs as she is no longer going to propagate plants. She would like to thank all the people who have been so generous with collecting tubs and giving her plants. She also has a wonderful garden man who now needs a job one day a week as she will be cutting down his hours. Anyone interested in using his services must please contact Rosemarie.
- 16) **MUSIC FESTIVAL** - The time is drawing nigh!!! Everyone in town is gearing up to our most famous event of the year. Even if you are not directly involved please help by tidying up your verges, picking up litter and keeping an eye out for anything that might make the town appealing. I have just had a wonderful idea. Bring your gardener and your garden tools and some black bags and let's meet outside the new info centre on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> March and clean up the main road from Mucky Duck all the way to the Town Hall. We can get together at 9h00. I hope to see as many Wakkerstroemers there as possible. It would be a wonderful way to all help to make Wakkerstroom look clean, pretty and quaint!
- 17) **FROGGING** - The Frogging experience in Wakkerstroom over the weekend 13-15 Jan was a bio-bash of massive proportions that produced 14 frog, 7 snake, 2 lizard, 10 mammal and 12 butterfly species - and one of the frogs was out of range!
- 18) **BLUE SWALLOW WEEKENDS** - Grab a rare opportunity to view the Critically Endangered Blue Swallow. This will take place at Tillietudlem Game Reserve in KZN Midlands at a cost of R3000 per person. This includes 2 nights luxury accommodation

at Ogram's Country House, all meals, guided walks and special access to Blue Swallow hotspots. Contact number is 033 234 9045

19)**WAKKERSTROOM COAT OF ARMS** - David Rutherford is looking for a copy of Wakkerstroom Coat of Arms. If you have one please contact him. Many thanks.

Please contact me with any more future info.

Regards

Sue

0823785637