

CHIT-CHAT
FROM WAKKERSTROOM
28 MARCH 2017

Hi everyone,

I think everyone is exhausted after a really busy long weekend and the very successful music festival.

- 1) **MUSIC FESTIVAL** - It appears that the whole festival went off really well other than a few tiny glitches - and those appear to have been fixed very professionally. Even though there was a problem with 2 of the venues there was a very smooth transition to the new places - well done.
- 2) **LETTER FROM LINETTE** - "Dear all involved with the eighth WMF, your time, dedication, hard work and individual inputs to ensure another successful WMF are wholeheartedly appreciated. Allow me to express my sincere gratitude to each and everyone for playing an imperative role in realising the WMF's vision, i.e. " to annually hold a sustainable classical music festival of exceptional quality " and mission " to create a unique platform through which classical music in South Africa will be promoted in all its forms ". I've overheard one of the artists saying it is not only a festival for the audiences, but also for the artists and I hope the WMF can continue in creating a platform for new ideas, collaborations and excellent productions in the future. Without your contributions, wonderful talent and passion, the WMF will not be able to present a classical music festival of superior quality and an opportunity for both young, upcoming as well as established, professional artists to share the same stage. Congratulations on a successful festival! Linette"
- 3) **CLEAN UP OF MAIN STREET** - I thought maybe I bit off more than I could chew when I suggested a clean-up of the main road through Wakkerstroom for the music festival. Well a small group of us did a sterling job. We cleaned up all the gardens that were a bit tatty and cut grass and picked up 25 bags of litter. I also had a guy clean up the corner as you turn into the main road near the vlei. He picked up 4 bags of litter just in that corner!!! Firstly I would like to thank the 3 people who donated money for us to pay some guys to help. The money paid for 7 men and we managed to give them juice and a boerewors rolls. Many thanks to Fred Kolby, Pam Marshall and a donor who wishes to remain anonymous but who donated the sum of R1000. The generosity of these 3 was amazing. My next thanks go to these people who physically came here and walked up and down the road all bent over picking up

litter. These people were stars. Claudine Spencer, Rupert and Gwynne Lawlor, Peter and myself! They all did a wonderful job sweating in the hot sun. The other people I would like to thank are those that delivered their gardeners for the day and picked up the bags of litter and dumped them. These thanks go to Linda Michaelmores, Ulrike Wischausen, Karen Kotze and Gys Roos (Sorry Gys not sure how to spell your name)

- 4) **UPCOMING EVENTS** - **30 March** at Wetlands at 15h00 is the W.T.A. A.G.M. with a bring and braai afterwards. Please bring your own drinks as well. After a freezing weekend and a cold few days it will be nice to stand around on a warm evening and braai. **15 APRIL** - The Easter Market is hoping to get going. If you have anything to sell or contribute to this market please contact Linda Michaelmore to help make it a success. **6 MAY** - Vlei vees. This is a yearly event and well worth supporting. The meat is from the local farmers and is very reasonably priced. **8-12 MAY** - The Working With Fire guys will be clearing the area around the knot on Ossewakop Kop. I am not sure when the painting of the knot will be, but we certainly can't paint it when it is surrounded by grass and weeds and possibly snakes! **20 MAY** - Natural Fibre Fair. This is also a yearly event and very enjoyable, especially as winter is rapidly approaching and they will be selling all sorts of warm goodies! **17 JUNE** - 21.1Km & 10km RUN/WALK & a 5km FUN-RUN. Starting and finishing at the NGK Grounds. All races starting at 8h00. More details in next chit-chat. **24JUNE**- Car Boot Sale at DeKotzenhof.
- 5) **BIRD CLUB OUTING** - A little bird whispered in my ear that there might be a very exciting next bird outing. They are planning to go to Ingula power station for 2 days (which means a night sleepover). It sounds like a lot of fun. It's set for action on 18 April and ending on 20 April. If you're interested, call Claudine Tavlet on 083 347 2770. Talking about birds, Keith Davidson put a message on facebook this morning. He says that this week they had an African Hawk Eagle hunting in their garden and last week two crowned cranes settled in for the night on their pine tree. How exciting was that? Pete and I also had a surprise visit about a week ago, we were standing on our verandah and a Gymnogene swooped around the corner onto our verandah. He saw us - got a fright and swooped across the road where he landed in a tree for awhile. He was so big and beautiful and so close that his wing touched my arm!!! Awesome!
- 6) **BOOK SALE** - Over the weekend of the Music Festival the Bird club had their biggest ever book sale. Brian would like to extend his thanks to the townies and out-of-townies who supported the Wakkerstroom Bird Club book sale at the Total Garage. They raised the excellent sum of R5,041.60 with virtually no costs. This money will go a long way towards their planned spraying in the wetland commencing in early spring. Special thanks to the owner and also the girls (who prefer to remain nameless) who run the garage, for sorting and storing the books and helping

"man" the stall. The sale was so successful that we are now a little short of books to sell! Hint, Hint! Our next big sale will be at whatever form the Easter market takes. If you have any books, or DVDs to donate please contact Brian 083 415 6701.

- 7) **WACKY KNITTERS** - A very big thank you to all friends in Dana and Wakkerstroom Village for supporting their Easter Raffle. Margie is sure that everyone has been accosted by the Wacky Knitter Ladies trying hard to sell Raffle tickets. Sales are going well and the draw will take place at the next knitting meeting on the 4th April. The Wacky Knitters have been extremely lucky as a very kind lady - Felicity Haldane - has collected all sorts of goodies for their 2017 project. On Monday afternoon they all gathered at Ronelle's Forellenhof and were handed boxes of articles relevant to the knitting group. The knitting ladies were absolutely amazed at the generosity of one woman who had never met them and was so kind and caring. So the Wacky Knitters now have a very generous sponsor to be grateful for and they are over the moon.
- 8) **MISSING BOOK** - Wendy Watson has lent someone a book on the Helderberg plane crash and has forgotten who took it. This has sentimental value to her, and she would be grateful if it was returned as soon as possible.
- 9) **3rd SANDY TWOMEY PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION** - The winners were announced at the AGM. The winners were 1st Prize - Sue Goodman 2nd Prize - Glenn Ramke 3rd Prize - Bradley van Rij. In addition, two Special Mentions were awarded: Glen Ramke for Fauna and Flora and to Graham Spencer for Scenery. Well done guys!
- 10) **QUIZ EVENING** - The next Quiz evening will be held on Friday the 28th April at 18h00 at The Shed in 230 Uys Street. (Carol Preston's place). Claudine will be serving dinner at about R50 per plate and you need to bring your own drinks. Put this in your diary!!
- 11) **WAKKERSTROOM GENERAL DEALERS.** - Amongst some really interesting goodies, Ibrahim and Fatima now stock wool and fabric. Pop in and have a look. They are so friendly and welcoming. In case you not sure where it is - it's on the corner of Kerk Street and Engelbrecht Street.
- 12) **BERRY FARM** -For Berry lovers - the berry farm in Charlestown does not sell berries to the public at the moment.
- 13) **AWAKE TRAVEL AND TOURS** - Naeem has got his travel business up and running. He put up a really interesting display in town during the music festival. If you have any queries please phone him at 0838803953

I think that's all for this week. Please send me some info for the next Chit Chat at peter@ironcrown.co.za.

Sue