



## ***Welcome***

***The De Rust Heritage Conservation Association  
welcomes you to our "Update Meeting for 2018/19"***



***Progress Report to Members***  
***De Rust Heritage Conservation Association***  
***for the period***  
***1st May, 2018 to 30th April, 2019***

# *Agenda Points for Meeting*

- *The Meeting is an opportunity to provide a full report-back on developments in the past year as well as to allow for discussion on the way ahead:*
  - *Annual Report*
  - *Discussion on points raised*
  - *Other Issues of Importance*
  - *Membership Fees for 2019/20*
  - *Closure*
- *Note: Possibility of additional volunteers being required for the coming De Rust Pilot Survey*



## ***Our Logo***



- ***Our logo depicts a San Bushman – one of the earliest inhabitants of this part of the Klein Karoo and the Southern Cape with the stylized background showing the Swartberg Mountain Range, the Karoo Veldt and the Klein Karoo Sun***

# ***Major Achievements 2018/19***

- ***Setting up of the new De Rust Heritage website in May, 2018 in order to highlight the role of heritage in developing a strong sustainable community in De Rust and the District***
- ***Re-registration of the previously HWC registered body of the De Rust Heritage Conservation Association with Heritage Western Cape in August, 2018***
- ***Expansion of existing HOE Permit Committee - Oudtshoorn to Joint Heritage Permit Committee – September, 2018***
- ***Research into a Heritage Overlay Zone Advisory Committee for De Rust as part of the initiative by Oudtshoorn Municipality for a Heritage Survey in Budget Year 2018/19***



# ***Major Achievements 2018/19***

- ***Meeting with CEO of Heritage Western Cape in late 2018 relating to major issues relating to lack of communication by Heritage Western Cape on a regular basis with registered heritage bodies in the Southern Cape/Klein Karoo Region***
- ***Formation of Southern Cape/Klein Karoo Heritage Forum incorporating all registered heritage bodies in the Southern Cape/Klein Karoo Region – February, 2019***
- ***Oudtshoorn Municipality advertise tender in February, 2019 for a detailed Heritage Survey covering De Rust, Dysselsdorp and Oudtshoorn. Closing date 25 March, 2019***
- ***Visit to De Rust by 80+ members of the Southern Cape Heritage Forum on Saturday 30 March, 2019.***



# *Special Thanks: Setting Up of De Rust Heritage*

- *We were able to establish the new De Rust Heritage website with our seed sponsorship coming from **Rawson Estates** in Oudtshoorn. A special thanks to **Ann Meiring** our local Rawson rep who has also been of great assistance over the year in advising potential purchasers*
- *In addition **Ailsa Tudhope** from the “**Story Weaver**” in Prince Albert was a key player in setting up the website and training us to do the basic maintenance and additions – her assistance was greatly appreciated*
- *A “special thank you” goes to **Hazel Jonker – Chair of HOE** who was instrumental in providing advice, encouragement and information in the setting up of the De Rust Heritage knowledge base – many thanks Hazel*
- *Many other **De Ruster’s** also assisted in providing additional information about the history of De Rust and personal stories from the past – thank you all for your valued input to our knowledge database*



# *Re-establishment of De Rust Heritage*

- *The De Rust Heritage Conservation Association was first established in 2009 by concerned local De Rust residents*
- *Following the incorporation of De Rust in 2012 into Greater Oudtshoorn De Rust Heritage was then consolidated into Heritage Oudtshoorn Erfenis which was newly registered*
- *In early 2018 following research it became clear that it was possible for De Rust to re-register with Heritage Western Cape as an independent heritage body in its own right*
- *Our re-registration with HWC was approved in August, 2018 with both De Rust Heritage and Heritage Oudtshoorn Erfenis operating closely with the Greater Oudtshoorn Municipality*





# ***Formation of Joint Heritage Permit Committee***

- ***The Heritage Permit Committee for the Greater Oudtshoorn Municipality was formed some years ago comprising members from Heritage Oudtshoorn Erfenis and officials from the Municipality in terms of the NHR Act of 1999***
- ***Following the re-establishment of De Rust Heritage as a registered heritage body with Heritage Western Cape, this committee was restructured into the “Joint Heritage Permit Committee” with members from both heritage bodies***
- ***The Committee meets every two weeks and makes recommendations to both the Municipality and Heritage Western Cape in terms of final compliance with the NHR Act***



# *Relationship with Oudtshoorn Municipality*

- *The working relationship between De Rust Heritage and the Oudtshoorn Municipality is particularly important:*
  - *The Oudshoorn Municipality appointed a full time Heritage Officer during the 2017/18 Budget Year*
  - *In 2019 the Municipality appointed a dedicated Building Control Inspector for De Rust with “specialist heritage skills”*
  - *In terms of the Oudtshoorn Spatial Development Framework (OSDF) and the NHR Act of 1999 a close working relationship is required between heritage bodies registered with Heritage Western Cape and the Oudshoorn Municipality*
  - *A clear understanding of the above relationship is required by all residents in order to fully understand the clear roles and responsibilities of all of the parties involved.*



# *Approved Heritage Programs*

- *In order to ensure a better understanding and awareness of heritage issues, De Rust Heritage in partnership with Heritage Oudtshoorn Erfenis have hosted Professor Matilda Burden from the University of Stellenbosch in April, 2019*
- *The program was focused on architectural styles with a close link to those found in the Klein Karoo and Southern Cape Region from Monday 15 to Wednesday 17 April, 2019*
- *The program is funded by **Historical Homes** in Stellenbosch and up to 20 participants attended from our region*
- *The above program is targeted at registered heritage bodies as well as officials with heritage roles in municipalities*



# Heritage Overlay Zone Investigation

- *Following the re-establishment of De Rust Heritage in 2018 an investigation was undertaken in terms of the current Oudtshoorn Spatial Development Framework (OSDF)*
- *In terms of the guidelines of the OSDF the village of De Rust is designated a “**Heritage Overlay Zone**” requiring a Heritage Survey and Inventory to be compiled by the Municipality*
- *In addition, the De Rust Koppie is designated a “**Critical Biodiversity Area**” and as such requires “**special protection**”*
- *The Municipality have recently gone out to tender for a Heritage Survey for De Rust, Dysseisdorp and Oudtshoorn which is currently being adjudicated .*





# Tender for Heritage Survey

- *Following the Oudtshoorn Municipality latest tender for a Heritage Survey to be conducted in De Rust, Dysseisdorp and Oudtshoorn an initial R 120 k was set aside in the current financial year 2018/19 with more to be allocated in future years*
- *The tender closed on **Monday 25 March, 2019** and thereafter there will be an adjudication process to select a competent consulting organization with relevant heritage knowledge and experience in conducting a survey of this type.*
- *In terms of the National Heritage Resources Act of 1999 the Municipality is obliged to involve the registered heritage bodies as part of this process for the awarding of the project.*
- *It is anticipated that the successful tenderer will commence by using **De Rust** as the “Pilot Study” as previously agreed*



# *De Rust Koppie: A Unique Asset*

- In 2016 initiatives were set up with Cape Nature to have the “**Illegal Refuse Transfer Station**” on the De Rust Koppie removed. This was made possible following Cape Nature threatening the Municipality with legal action*
- During the following years additional initiatives were made to have the De Rust Koppie cleaned up as Cape Nature then had funding available. However, the Municipality were either unwilling or unable to comply and the funds were lost*
- Following the introduction of the “**Green Deeds Initiative**” it should be possible to obtain real action in cleaning up the De Rust Koppie as part of our “local heritage” initiative*





# *Program of Action for 2019/20*

- *We have a particularly intensive plan of action for the coming year including the following:*
  - *The **De Rust Heritage Survey** in conjunction with the Oudtshoorn Municipality and the appointed consultants – this will be time consuming and require volunteers*
  - *The forthcoming **Eco-Festival** to be held to coincide with the **Spring Flowers in late September/early October** just before the Meiringspoort Half Marathon event*
  - *The continuation of the project of having the **De Rust Koppie** declared a “**protected area**” under the auspices of Cape Nature and the Oudtshoorn Municipality*





# *Meeting with CEO of Heritage Western Cape*

- *Members of De Rust Heritage and Heritage Oudtshoorn Erfenis met with Dr Mxolisi Dlamuka the CEO of Heritage Western Cape on 6 December, 2018 in Oudtshoorn*
- *The meeting was arranged in order to discuss ways of improving the existing level of communication between registered heritage bodies and Heritage Western Cape (HWC)*
- *The view expressed was that the communication channels between HWC and registered heritage bodies in the Southern Cape/Klein Karoo region was often seriously lacking, with little or no feedback from HWC on key issues.*
- *It was agreed that moves to rectify this situation would be made in 2019 with regular visits to the region by the CEO and senior officials/managers from the HWC Head Office in Cape Town*



# *Southern Cape/Klein Karoo Heritage Forum*

- *Following the meeting with the CEO of Heritage Western Cape a meeting with the registered heritage bodies in the Southern Cape/Klein Karoo region was held in Oudtshoorn on Thursday 17 January, 2019.*
- *At the meeting it was agreed that there was a urgent need to share information on a regional basis between the registered heritage bodies in our area and Heritage Western Cape. The meeting also resolved that the “**Southern Cape/Klein Karoo Heritage Forum**” should be formed to meet this urgent need*
- *Those participating included the **Simon van der Stel Foundation (Southern Cape), the Outinequa Historical Society, Heritage Oudtshoorn Erfenis, Prince Albert Cultural Foundation and De Rust Heritage. In addition, Calitzdorp and Mossel Bay Heritage have also indicated they wish to participate in future Forum events.***



## *Southern Cape/Klein Karoo Heritage Forum Visit*

- *As a follow-up to the formation of the Southern Cape/Klein Karoo Heritage Forum it was also agreed that a heritage visit to De Rust by the **Southern Cape/Klein Karoo Heritage Forum would be arranged for Saturday 30 March, 2019***
- *The visit was also open to De Rust Heritage Members as well as interested residents – full details of the visit are available on the De Rust Heritage website [www.derustheritage.org.za](http://www.derustheritage.org.za) under Southern Cape Heritage Forum*
- *A turnout of 80+ attended - starting at the **Voelgesang Homestead** and concluding with a lunch and historical talk at **Doornkraal** – see **April Newsletter** for further details*



# ***“De Rust Heritage Festival 2020”***

- ***Following the very successful Heritage Visit to the De Rust at the end of March, 2019 it is planned to stage a **Heritage Festival to celebrate the 120<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Village:*****
- ***Planned events include the following:***
  - ***The full “De Rust Heritage Walking Trail” with Guides***
  - ***A visit to **Vlakteplaas and other historic sites of interest** in the De Rust District including Doornkraal***
  - ***A historic “Heritage Film Evening” with Katinka Heyns and dinner at “Tante Maria’s” facility at Doornkraal***
  - ***A visit to the historic **Meiringspoort** sites including the waterfall and the “Herrie Monument” and more.....***

# *“A Sustainable Village for All”*

- *All of the above initiatives have a primary objective of ensuring that De Rust remains a jewel in the Klein Karoo*
- *Developing a “sustainable community” means ensuring that all who live in De Rust have a chance of a better life*
- *When De Rust prospers - we all prosper together through building a more integrated and caring community spirit*
- *Our strong point is our great eco-tourism potential which has still to be fully developed as well as other related aspects*
- *De Rust can lead the way for other rural communities in showing that the “Thuma Mina” approach is a positive step forward for South Africans in all communities*



# *General Discussion*

- *Discussion on points arising from the presentation*
- *Other De Rust issues of importance for discussion*
- *Call for volunteers for the De Rust Heritage Survey and to assist with planned Eco Festival scheduled for late September / early October, 2019*
- *Members of Committee plus addition of others who wish to volunteer in assisting with “special skills”*
- *Membership Fees for 2019/20*



# *Your De Rust Heritage Committee*

- *The De Rust Heritage Conservation Association Committee comprises these members with the following portfolios:*
  - *Chair: Pieter Schoeman*
  - *Convener Southern Cape & Klein Karoo Heritage Forum plus Member JHPC: Alan Tonkin*
  - *Advisor Heritage & Member JHPC: Marnus Barnard*
  - *Property Liaison/Heritage Advice: Ann Meiring*
  - *Municipal Liaison: Julia Le Roux*
  - *Conservation & Ecology: Willie Immelman*
  - *Future Heritage Planning & Suitability: Callie Burger*



# Finances 2018/19

*Major Areas of Current Funding are as follows:*

- *Seed funding of R 3 000 from Rawson Estates - the above covered the initial set up of the De Rust Heritage website including the annual fee for the website hosting*
- *De Rust Heritage Walking Trail booklet - R 2 500 plus VAT sponsored by Klein Karoo International*
- *Annual Running Costs for De Rust Heritage including website fees and logo design amount to over R 12 500 for the year.*
  - *The above expenditure has put De Rust firmly on the map from both a Heritage and Eco-Tourism perspective. This is good for the Village as well as being excellent for local property values*





# *Membership Subscriptions 2019/20*

- Single Members: R 180 per annum/R 15 per month*
- Married Couples: R 240 per annum/R 20 per month*
- Corporates: R 1 000+ per annum – negotiable on size*

***Note: The above fees comprise only a small portion of our operating costs and are reserved for the website ONLY. All other costs are met personally by our various dedicated volunteer Committee Members.***



# *“We Need Your Time & Skills”*

- *The “**De Rust Heritage Conservation Association**” is calling for volunteers in the following categories:*
  - *To assist with the forthcoming “**Heritage Pilot Survey**” for the Village in conjunction with the Consultants appointed by the Oudtshoorn Municipality.*
  - *To assist with the forthcoming “**Eco-Festival**” in early October to coincide with the Spring Flowers.*
  - *To be involved in promoting the Village as a “**Special Area for Heritage and Eco-Tourism**” going well into the Future.*
  - *To see our Village’s long term future being linked with a long term sustainability for the whole community.*



## *Your Interest is Greatly Appreciated*

- *We thank you for attending and really appreciate your interest in the “De Rust Heritage Conservation Association”*
- *Our activities other than Heritage include the following:*
  - *Eco-tourism related activities*
  - *The sustainability of the Village as a growing and healthy environment for all its inhabitants including Blomnek*
  - *Educational efforts in building local capabilities at all levels in order to grow the local economy for all*
- *Please do contact us if you feel you can make a “positive contribution” to helping make De Rust a better place for all*





***Our Heritage is Worth Preserving***

***De Rust Heritage thanks you for your interest in  
preserving Our Heritage for Future Generations***