

## **SOMETHING TO SHOUT ABOUT...**

On Solms-Delta there is always something to shout about – whether it be our Oesfees that has just passed us by or an exciting event coming up. This farm is always on the move, and grabbing life by the horns and even when we go through challenges it seems we 're able to do it with a song in our hearts and a dance in our step. Perhaps the thing we should be the most proud of is the spirit of our people—their triumph over adversity, their commitment to change and moving forward, and their willingness to act on that commitment. Take a look what we 've been up to these past two months...

## **NEW APPOINTMENTS**

Annalise Kiewiets



Thozie Them bani



Celeste Papier



CONGRATULATIONS TO THERESE WILLEMSE!

**A VERY HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO:**

# NEWS FROM THE ANNA FOUNDATION ...



From Tanja Le Roux, the Anna Foundation Project Manager on Solms-Delta:

The first term was full of academics, sport, playing and fun runs. Between all the homework we are still busy giving the children extra academic work. We can see that this work not only broadens their perspective, but also help them with their school work.

The sport that we did was focused on motor skill development. We learnt certain signs like Roer-eiers, when shouted out, we should run around our friends. A few fun games that we played are beanbag netball and active games with the Hoola-Hoops. In the beginning the children were not that keen on the sport, but as we changed the activities to be more fun, they started to enjoy it. Miss Candice came in especially to do dancing with the younger and older children. The older children even learnt karate moves.

Our fun runs for the term were the Nelson Mandela Freedom Run in February and the Anna Foundation yearly event. Elrico and Jonathan came firsts at the Freedom Run. Elrico and Brandon were first at the Anna Foundation event with Nadia first of the girls. I get a warm feeling in my heart when I see most of our children with their yellow t-shirt on, ready for the race. I do hope that through the year so many more will take part in these event. Let 's show the other farms what the Solmpies are capable of!

Everyday of the holidays was packed with activities. We did drama, pottery (our pots really came out beautifully), walked a long distance to go and swim, build puppets out of recyclable products, baked pancakes and learnt how to weave. It is nice to see so many kids at the after school and what is interesting, is that the numbers became more and more.



Most of the children 's reports for this term look good and those who are not pleased with theirs, will give everything next term to show what they are capable of. We at the after school are very proud of every single child. We look forward to a second term filled with assignments, challenges and an after school building full of happy children 's faces.

## COMMUNITY NEWS



The following topics were discussed:

## SPORTS NEWS:



## BASKETBALL NEWS...

The 2010 Solms Delta Farm basketball team is off to a great start. After one tournament (with 3 more to go) the Solms Delta boys are on the top of the standings with Simondium Primary School in 2<sup>nd</sup> place. The next tournament will be played on the 8<sup>th</sup> of May at Paarlzicht Primary School in Paarl East starting at 9:00 am. All players need to be at the security gate at 8:30 to catch the bus. Good job guys, now lets play well on the May 8<sup>th</sup>! Friday practices resume at 4:30 for the next few weeks leading up to the tournament, Coach Kyle



# 10KM DELTA DRAF 5KM

## THE DELTA DRAF

Steven de Koker is one of the many multi-tasking staff members at Solms-Delta. You will see him accompanying visitors on tours of the vineyards, sharing his knowledge of every vine and every grape cultivar. Or you will encounter him conducting a wine-tasting in the museum or on the lawns, his trade-mark sideburns bristling with his characteristic enthusiasm.

Steven is also a keen runner, at present preparing for the Comrades. His dream has been to organize a run in what he calls "the most beautiful Valley in the World". So now he has initiated the first official run on and around the farm, calling it the [Delta Draf](#).

He and his helpers tirelessly tried out several 10 km tracks between the green vineyards and the sparkling rivers and have now settled on a route that keeps almost entirely to farm roads on the Solms-Delta wine estate, with an excursion into Allée Bleue next door. The result is that this run, set against the backdrop of Simonsberg and Groot Drakenstein Mountains is probably, as Steven says, one of the most scenic athletic events in the world. The event was fully supported by the Boland Athletics Organization. There was a 5 km and a 10 km challenge, with medals and prizes for serious winners, and a glass of [Cape Jazz Shiraz](#) for all survivors.



## OESFEES DOES IT YET AGAIN...

For the third successful year in a row the Franschhoek Groot Drakenstein mountain range provided a dramatic Cape backdrop to what has fast become an annual institution – the spectacular Franschhoek Oesfees on the Solms-Delta wine estate – a salute to the end of the harvest, and a joyous celebration of uniquely Cape food, wine, music, song and dance.



This free-spirited tribute to a shared love of culture saw local farm workers and farm owners dancing shoulder to shoulder with tourists and VIP guests in a colourful embrace of diversity, with Solms-Delta's teasingly-named wines like Langarm, Lekkerwijn, Hiervandaan and Cape Jazz Shiraz flowing alongside the lekker Kaapsekos.



Mid-morning rains did not put a dampener on the festivities with close to 3000 locals and tourists flocking to the venue to be rewarded with a sunny, but not too hot, afternoon. A showcase of the Music van de Caab Music Project at Solms-Delta, the Oesfees wove together a diverse tapestry of South African cultures as revellers from the Franschhoek Valley and beyond kicked off their cares and partied through the day and into the night to the eclectic sounds of bands like Radio Kalahari Orkes, Negosiegoed and the Delta Langbroek Band.



The inaugural **Farm Worker of the Year Award** by Franschhoek Wine Valley Tourism Association, recognising the farm workers of the Franschhoek Vignerons was announced at the festival and was awarded to Jacques (Balie) Daniels of Franschhoek Pass Winery. The object of the award is to encourage excellence in all aspects of wine farming. Vignerons members were invited to nominate one or more of their farm workers who were also voted for by their colleagues). From Solms-Delta, Jeffrey van der Merwe and Frederik Fisher, were nominated and can be seen here receiving recognition for their dedication and commitment to their jobs.



## LAUNCH OF NEW HIERVANDAAN CD

The Hiervandaan album is the brainchild of current artist in residence at Solms-Delta, renowned South African musician Leslie Javan. He has more than 20 years of experience in music development, community work and activism, and has performed upon invitation at music festivals worldwide. Leslie was also the closest musical colleague of the late great Alex van Heerden, known internationally for his jazz trumpet work and as a pioneer of “psychedelic vastrap”. Alex and Les were the pivotal duo of The Gramadoelas. Leslie is now continuing his own work as one of South Africa’s most treasured songwriters. He also makes important contributions to keeping alive the Delta Vastrap Genootskap (an informal association of Afrikaans rural musicians and songwriters created by Alex while at Solms-Delta). This album showcases some of his ongoing work there, with Delta Vastrap Genootskap members, and with farmworkers who participate in the Music van de Caab project.



**The CD was launched at the Franschoek Oesfees on Saturday 27 March, and is on sale at the farm for R120**

The numbers that Les has written and sung are runaway hits. “Met jou aan my sy” is a winner. Les says “it’s everyone’s favourite and the best love-song I’ve ever written.” So is the graceful, melancholy “Gemoedsrus.” And the rhythmic, tragic “Heuningkrans” co-written by Les and his daughter Jodie.

As our guest website blogger Prof John van Zyl notes, “ what gives the CD a veracity and a resonance unlike any other are the voices of the choir, the bubbling laughter of the nursery school kids, the sweet sound of the Langbroeke Brass band, and familiar farm noises that link the toe-tapping rhythms of the hits. This CD pays homage to the hard work done by the Music Development Project by artist-in-residence Les Javan, music coordinator Adriaan Brand and choir leader Lynette Reid. If there can be so much raw talent on one farm, just think what a treasure trove lies hidden in the Franschoek valley ”

### Our legendary music personnel



We all know them as Attie, Lynette and Les and now with the newly appointed guitar tutor Nicholas (Nick) Turner, are we in the company of four key musicians on the music staff of the Solms Delta music project. So how well do we really know them? While Lynette have dazzled many 'a Jazz audience with her powerful performances with various groups over the past two decades, the other three, namely, Attie, Nick and Les received their colors for bravery during the SA music revolution of the 1990's.



Attie, (the Rock star) with the Springbok Nude Girls, Nick, (protest songwriter) with Sons of Trout and Mekanik; and Les (activist and music innovator) with Atmosphere, Scarlett Rose and Gramadoelas. These groups and others of their time composed and produced new and revolutionary music that turned the SA music scene on its head and changed the future of music in our country. Lynette is the Jazz addition who hails from the gates of the Cape Town based 'Jazz Workshop', while Les write and compose music in just about any style; Nick is the primary protest songwriter and wordsmith, while Attie arranges music from Classical to Rock and Theatre.

We at Solms Delta are honored to have such highly trained and esteemed artists on our staff, sharing their worth with our students and inspiring them to great heights.





## FROM FRANSCHHOEK TO OUDTSHOORN: ALL ABOUT THE KKNK

### MUSICALLY SPEAKING...



*Kontrei*

*Oewer*

*Oppikoppi Rivierbuurt*



### ... AND ON THE WINE SIDE

*"For us it was a huge success seeing that it was the first time Solms-Delta had exhibited wines at the KKNK, and we had no idea what to expect. Solms gained more publicity from the experience and the Cape Jazz Shiraz was a huge hit. A sparkling red wine is quite unique and the guests were absolutely blown away over our Cape Jazz. There were also organisers of other festivals at the event such as the Cheese festival in George and the Olive Festival in Riebeeck Kasteel who invited us to exhibit with them. Even though it was a lot of hard work as we had to man the stand from 8am to 8pm for 8 days in a row it was a great experience and we appreciated the opportunity".*

