

# Hospitality

Contact us: Tel: 014 592 9677 | 014 592 5245 | 014 592 9686 Email: news@platinumweekly.co.za

## Orange Grove Restaurant

### New Owners!!

Previous from Geelhout Tea Garden

**We Do:**  
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 A la Carte 7 Days a Week • Birthday Breakfast & Lunches  
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 Private Evening Functions

Contacts: Madeleine: 084 200 0414 • Sonne: 083 276 0973

## Meerhof Lodge Christmas Celebrations

**Hartebeespoort Dam** – The management and staff of Meerhof Lodge would like to wish you all a merry Christmas and invite all our Platinum Weekly readers to join them for a solemn and peaceful celebration in commemoration of the birth of Jesus Christ.

This is a wonderful opportunity for everyone to enjoy the Christmas spirit the way Africa meant it to be; with family and friends in the bush. This joyous occasion is scheduled for the evening of 23 December and will start at 19h00 with opening and prayer and afterwards all can join in to give thanks for the birth of Christ. Many a favourite Christmas carol will be sung in both Afrikaans and English. So you're all invited and we look forward to seeing you there!

**For additional information please contact Mike at 082 454 0095 or pop an email to mike@meerhoflodge.co.za.**

## NW remembers Sol Plaatjie

**Mahikeng** – As part of celebrating the rich history of South Africa, the North West Department of Sport, Arts and Culture in collaboration with Sol Plaatjie Heritage Trust, hosted a Literacy Festival as well as Memorial Lecture from 8 – 9 December 2011. In November, the same department celebrated the life of Oliver Reginald Tambo with football at the Royal Bafokeng.

The Sol Plaatjie festival was inspired by Plaatjie's literary excellence and is meant to honour and celebrate the legacy of Sol Plaatjie. During the event, emerging indigenous writers were recognized and young writers were equipped with skills through workshops and seminars. Activities that took place include:

- Prose fiction workshop;
- Poetry;
- Publishing;
- Exhibitions and book sales by different publishing houses;
- Book launches, reading sessions and signing by authors; and
- Live performances.

Sol Plaatjie arrived in Mahikeng in 1898 to work as an interpreter and typist for the resident magistrate Ch-alres Bell. He wrote his first newspaper article in the Mafikeng Mail newspaper. In 1902 he resigned from the civil service to be the founding editor of Korante ea Becuoana. This made him the youngest editor in the country. Also in 1899 – 1900 he wrote the first ever war diary to be written by an African. The diary was later published in 1973 as "The Mahikeng Diary of Sol Plaatjie". As the first secretary of the African National Congress, Sol Plaatjie created a legacy of intellectualism and that of writing.

## Rustenburg Rapid Transport underway

**Rustenburg** – Construction of the Rustenburg Rapid Transport (RRT) system is due to go ahead in the City of Rustenburg by mid-2012, creating an estimated 5,500 construction jobs over the contract period.

Manager of the RRT project, Pauline Froschauer, confirmed last week that contracts have been concluded with two consortiums of engineering consultants who will work on the infrastructure design of the RRT trunk routes, in preparation for the imminent construction phase.

The RRT is a R3 billion public transport initiative being implemented by the Rustenburg Municipality, in line with government's national transport policy approved by Cabinet in 2007 and funded through the Public Transport Infrastructure and Systems Grant (PTISG). Rustenburg is one of the 12 cities in South Africa earmarked by the Department of Transport for implementing an integrated rapid public transport network (IRPTN). The target is for the system to be operational by 2015.

Froschauer confirmed that after a rigorous tender process, contracts for the infrastructure design have been awarded to two joint venture groups of consulting engineers, the VelaVKE-UWP-Phatwe Joint Venture and the Lotshephe Africa Joint Venture. Both consortiums will commence working on the project with immediate effect.

"We are looking to fast track aspects and sections of the BRT trunk routes with the intention of having construction contractors on site by mid-2012," said Froschauer. Tender opportunities will be advertised from early in 2012 and a strong emphasis will be placed on local content in line with Council policy.

The first phase of the infrastructure design will focus on the 2 main BRT corridors running from Kanana and Phokeng, covering some 40kms along the R510 and the R565 to the Rustenburg CBD. The BRT trunk infrastructure will include dedicated bus lanes and stations. More than half the residents in the Greater Rustenburg area rely on public transport in the form of mini-bus taxis and buses, resulting in heavy traffic congestion on the existing routes.

The RRT will provide Rustenburg with BRT trunk corridors, direct bus routes and feeder routes to serve the city, the mining operations in the region and the surrounding rural settlements. It will serve some 250,000 commuters, providing them with access within one kilometre of their homes or places of work, ensuring that both the city's economic hub and the mining operations in the area are easily accessible.

Rustenburg is this country's fastest growing city and located in the richest platinum production area in the world. Building on the experience of BRT systems already in operation in Cape Town and Durban and, in particular, the Rea Vaya system in Johannesburg, the RRT is expected to bring significant transformation to the city.

# Aasvoëlkrans Vakansieoord

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