

# The New Richmond Reader

Issue 81

September 2025

Your Literary News from the Heart  
of the Karoo



September 1, 2025

Spring Day at last

2 Park Lane

Mtunzini

Zululand

Well Karoosters, we made it through another winter and if you are reading this then you survived. Winter is well know to take many away into the big cloud; but we made it.

Here on the coast of the Indian Ocean it never really has a winter as the rest of us know it, but with time even here the blood does thin out and Canadian born tough people still complain about the cold winds...what do they know about cold when cold here in these parts is 10...above zero and in Centigrade not Fahrenheit!



Spring is in the air in Richmond, and the trees are in bud; we are just waiting for the first rains of the early summer. The village is finally all pulling in the same direction as we struggle for that all important critical mass of self-sustainability. There are serious renovations taking place



at the Joburg entrance to town, the garage is receiving a big make over all to the betterment of the area and the guest houses are all being spring tidied up in anticipation of a fantastic tourist season, which officially starts with BoekBedonnerd XVIII which opens to the world on Thursday October 30<sup>th</sup> until Saturday November 1<sup>st</sup>.

Darryl and Angie have put together a real Blowout programme which you will see below. Notwithstanding the lack of financial support from the decrepit and putrefied Northern Cape Provincial government, to which we

applied earlier in the year for funding for programmes exactly like BoekBedonnerd, and were told that we were the ONLY applicants for the grant, only to be told bye the bye that there were suddenly multiple applications more meritis than ours!! The corruption and sheer criminality of this Northern Cape government defies all that a cynic can possibly imagine. But we continue and thrive....thanks to all our followers and the supporters from everywhere on the planet. Just heard from a group of Canadian faithful, that they have already bought their air tickets and are counting the days!

So with no further adieu here is the line up for BookBedonnerd 2025. It is a very special programme and there is certainly something for everyone, including last but not least, super writer Jeffrey Archer. Sadly, not in person, but most certainly very much alive!

Please remember to book accommodation at any of the local and surrounding areas B&B's.

And to make things even more fun for everyone, have some great wine sponsors lied us for our ever fun wine tastings in the afternoons....and into the evenings.

Just an advisory that this programme is going to be juggled somewhat, as we all find that the short lunch interval of only an hour is really not sufficient to relax, and order, and digest, a small lunch bite of food. So, by popular demand Darryl is going to extend the lunch hour to something a bit easier on our patrons' ability to enjoy a relaxing sandwich and glass or two of wine! So don't put too much credence in the times below, order perhaps, but the times (\*^\*&%^0%&... Watch this space.....

### **Madibaland @ BookBedonnerd Programme**

#### **THURSDAY 30 OCTOBER**

**9.00 Welcome to BoekBedonnerd XVIII at Booktown Richmond**

**9.15 Popina Khumanda - *The Smallest Ones***

**9.45 Hein Viljoen- 10 x 10 - *Die top 10 Afrikaanse romans en gedigte van die laaste eeu***

#### **10.30 – HIGH TEA @ DIE SUPPER KLUB**

**11.00 Rory Riordan - *Athol Fugard: The Port Elizabeth Years***

**11.30 Andile Cele - *Braids and Migraines***

**12.00 Claerwen Howie - *Shadowed Lives***

**12.30 Tammy Roberts- *Southby - Sunshine Simplicity***

#### **13.00 LUNCH**

**14.00 Alex Hamilton - *Arting***

**14.30 Paul Sinton - *Hewitt - One Small Step: Founder of the Park Run***

**15.00 Mike de Jongh - *Truly South African: Coenraad Buys***

**15.30 Chris Nicholson - *One Hand Washes The Other***

#### **16.00 WINE TASTING HAWKSMOOR**

**16.30 Mannie Coe - *Brother.Do.You.Love.Me***

#### **FRIDAY 31 OCTOBER**

**9.00 Malcolm Pearse - *Alan Paton and the Comrades Marathon***

**9.30 Kerry Hammerton - *Flash Fiction***

**10.00 Dietloff van der Berg - *Feesmaal***

**10.30 Hein Viljoen - *Vyf kleurlou***

#### **10.30 HIGH TEA @ DIE SUPPER KLUB**

**11.00 Riana Steyn - *Athol Fugard en Die laaste karretjiegraf***

**11.30 Milton Schorr - *Addicted***  
**12.00 Anton Krueger - *Poplar Grove***  
**12.30 Darryl Earl David - *Doggone Days***

**13.00 LUNCH**

**14.00 Robert Berold - *Deep South Publishers***  
**14.30 Mangaliso Buzani - *A Naked Bone***  
**15.00 Peter Ross- *Chasing Steeples***  
**15.30 Lisa Fugard - *Athol Fugard, My Father***  
**16.00 Peter Godwin - *Exit Wounds***

**16.30 WINE TASTING DOLHOOF AND MYBURGH**

**17.00 Christof van der Berg- MUSIC CONCERT - a must see!!!**

#### **SATURDAY 1 NOVEMBER**

**9.00 Malcolm Pearse - *All the Hills Are Home***  
**9.30 Chantal Stewart - *The Veil of Maya***  
**10.00 Paul Weinberg - *Between the Cracks***

**10.30 HIGH TEA @ DIE SUPPER KLUB**

**11.00 Rob Parsons - *A Knock at the Door***  
**11.30 Dorian Haarhoff - *Route 77 - A Poememoir***  
**12.00 Tom Nancollas - *Seashaken Houses: A Lighthouse History***  
**12.30 Jeffrey Archer - *End Game***

**Its Party Time....drive to Deelfontein, stoep sit, village walkabout & relax**

BoekBedonnerd is just around the corner so please book your accommodation.... NOW!!

**A Richmond Community Development Foundation Project**

Totally BookBedonnerd and Fundamentally Fugarded

