



Knysna

Municipality Munisipaliteit uMasipala

inclusive · innovative · inspired

MEDIA RELEASE

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Knysna Municipality in full support of Knysna Oyster Festival

Planning for the Knysna Oyster Festival is well under way, and Executive Mayor Mark Willemse is looking forward to the fun happening from 21 to 30 June. “The festival has been synonymous with Knysna for many years,” he said. “While the previous naming sponsor is not on board this year, the new Knysna Oyster Festival promises to bring back firm family favourites, as well as fresh new events with a decidedly local flavour.”

“This reincarnation of the festival aims to return it to the locals. Locals are managing the festival and organising events, locals are involved with sponsoring events and prizes, and I know that locals will enjoy the fantastic items on the program,” Willemse continued. “That is what this festival should be about – mutual local support, enjoyment and benefit.”

Designed to attract more visitors to Knysna during the traditionally quiet winter period, the first Knysna Winter Festival was held in 1983. “It started small,” Willemse explained. “Conceived and staged by locals, it quickly grew into South Africa’s premier sporting and lifestyle festival - with the help of major sponsors and the associated managerial input in later years.”

Now the Knysna Oyster Festival is ready to stand on its own feet again. Or rather, to stand on the shoulders of its local drivers, supported by local business. Take a look at the program at www.knysnaoysterfestival.co.za and you will be surprised at the number and variety of events. Staged throughout the greater Knysna area, there will be sport to take part in, food to devour, entertainment to delight and loads to do for the kids.

“There had been a lot of talk about ‘taking back the festival’ over the last few years. You’d hear it at dinner parties, you’d hear it at work, and you’d hear it while waiting to pay for your groceries. This is your chance to do just that,” Willemse said. “Organise or sponsor an event but, most importantly, attend the events! The municipality has been working closely with the organisers and assisting wherever we can. We know that this festival will only be as successful as we make it, but we have to do it together.”

“I urge you to take part in whatever capacity you can,” Willemse concluded. “Visit www.knysnaoysterfestival.co.za or the Visit Knysna information office on Main Road to find out how you can get involved and where or how to buy your tickets. Thank you to Visit Knysna, the event and festival managers for your hard work, I know that we can all look forward to not only a fun, but an inspired, innovative and inclusive Knysna Oyster Festival.”

The Knysna Oyster Festival takes place from 21 to 30 June 2019. Visit www.knysnaoysterfestival.co.za for more information.

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