



PRE STARS 2015

Reminders

Clothing donations.

Traditionally we have asked our visitors to bring spare clothing that they do not require. It gets very cold in the Eastern Free State and if you have any spare jackets in particular for all sizes we would appreciate them. They will be distributed after the Stars event to the communities that live on the farms.

Advice re clothing.

Please remember that although our event is in early April it can start getting cold so make sure you come with clothing to cope with cold nights. The days are typically warm and you can literally fluctuate from a T-shirt to three layers of clothing *after* the sun goes down.

Weather forecast.

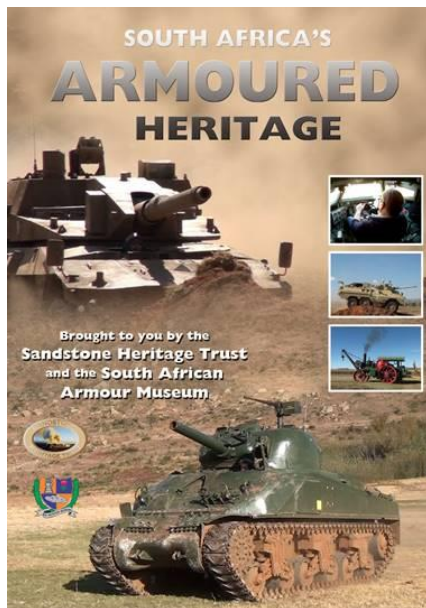
Weather conditions don't look too bad with lots of sun but we do have some days where rain is indicated in percentages from 10% to 75%. It would be advisable to bring rain jackets and umbrellas. The train trips are unaffected by the weather but walking around the site could be an issue.

Appropriate footwear would also be a good idea.

New DVD release.

We are delighted to advise that our new Military DVD which has been produced in cooperation with the Armour Museum in Bloemfontein has now been released. This provides comprehensive coverage of a wide range of Military vehicles both in the Sandstone collection and those belonging to the Armour Museum.

Even if you are not a Military enthusiast we are confident that you will enjoy it. The kids will enjoy it even more.



It will be on sale next week but feel free to place your orders now. The DVD is available to buy for R240 / £15.00. A Blu-ray version is available for R260 / £16.00.

Orders can be placed via the following:

SA orders: Babita Hira, E: babitan@sandstone.co.za

UK orders: Joanne West, E: joannewest@btinternet.com.

Travelling to Sandstone Estates from Johannesburg.

We strongly suggest you stick to the N1 Durban Highway as far as Warden. Turn right at Warden towards Bethlehem and then proceed from Bethlehem to Fouriesburg and then on to the farm which is 30kms past Fouriesburg on the left. This road is not in particularly good condition so please look out for pot holes.

Look for the two old tractors and the windmill on the left hand side. See picture below.

The reason for this is the road from Frankfurt to Bethlehem is very narrow and poor in places. The route recommended is longer but much less stressful.



Local crafts.

A select number of local crafts will be available to purchase during Stars 2015 including some locally produced Goose down and feather products.

We thoroughly endorse these products which make ideal gifts. Credit card facilities are available.

At Ember Down we do not only focus on a superb product – we think you would expect nothing less. We are exceptionally proud of the fact that we make it all, 100%, here in the South African Eastern Free State. From little, fluffy goslings to the fully machine washable, gorgeous Goose Down duvets and pillows. Our team includes mostly single mothers.

We unconditionally subscribe to ethical farming practises and therefore no geese are ever hurt. Our products are Hypo-allergenic and fully machine washable. Our fabrics are 400 Thread Count of the finest Down-proof cotton available.

Come chat to us, we shall be joining the Stars of Sandstone 2015.



Interesting link.

[Amazing GDSF WW1 Steam Convoy - 'Gigantic' bounces around the roundabout!.](#)

Visit to Sandstone's Bloemfontein Steam Workshops.

Depending on the number of people who are interested we are planning an excursion to our Bloemfontein Steam Workshops on Wednesday the 8th of April. All the locomotives that have been rebuilt for us were done at these workshops. Lucas Nel and his team will host you and give a tour of the facility. In order for us to gauge the interest it is important for you to book via babitan@sandstone.co.za or you can call +27 11 805 4692. You will be transported in a mini bus at a nominal cost and a light lunch will be included

We would like to end on a historic note. Recently this painting was sold for a tidy sum. It epitomises the struggle that people endured to open up the hinterland. We are proud of our own teams of Afrikaner oxen. When you see them think of what they were capable of and what a contribution they made to this country's history.

COETZER, Willem Hermanus (1900 – 1983)



Provenance: Collection Dr. I. P. Shabort

Illustrated & Referenced: Coetzer, W. H. 1947. My Kwas Vertel. L & S Boek-en-Kunssentrum

Illustrated with the Title: "Voortrekkers Bo-Op die Drakensberg"



We look forward to seeing you. Travel safe!

The Sandstone Team

