

WESTERN CAPE

2019



Rally
to read

Hosted by the

JONSSON[®]
FOUNDATION

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1. The Rally to Read introduced

THE OVER-ARCHING AIM OF THE RALLY TO READ IS TO ...

... develop the reading and writing skills of learners in remote and rural schools.

This is achieved in 2 ways – through:

1. the provision of excellent, quality reading materials for Grade R to 7 learners;
2. the provision of support and training to teachers to equip them to nurture, amongst their learners, competence in reading and writing skills, as well as a love of reading.

The READ Educational Trust, a registered NPO, organises the Rally with the assistance of its national Lead Partner, **The Jonsson Foundation**, which funds related costs. The Rally is conducted in partnership with the Western Cape Education Department and is fully aligned to the National Curriculum (CAPS).

The Rally is a 3-year programme. This ensures that an adequate number of books can be, cumulatively, delivered for all grades; and targeted training and support can be provided to the teachers of the different grades.

HOW THE RALLY TO READ WORKS

The Rally to Read is collaboratively funded, and actively supported by individuals and companies committed to a vision for an excellent education system in South Africa.

- Rally partners contribute R36 000 per vehicle that participates and helps deliver the materials to the schools. Up to 4 representatives of each partner have the opportunity, during the Rally weekend, to visit the schools being supporting and meet the learners and educators being supported.
- Rally participants over-night in the local area, as the guests of the Rally Host. In Western Cape, for the 2018 – 2021 Rallies, the Host Partner is **The Jonsson Foundation**.

THE RALLY EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMME

1. Educational materials

Using the funds contributed, READ puts together a balanced selection of reading materials relevant to a grade. During Year 1, Grade R to Grade 3 receive appropriate and relevant materials. During Year 2, the Grade 4 – 7 classes receive material. Year 3, provides the opportunity to provide independent reading books for all grades, tailored to the needs of each school.

2. Teacher training and support

Training workshops are conducted on a quarterly basis and include training in modern and efficient approaches to developing reading and writing skills: Group Reading; Guided Reading; Paired Reading; Independent Reading; Shared Reading and Writing.

Support includes conducting demonstration lessons, lesson observation and guidance, mentoring, co-teaching, as well as guidance in using the resources in support of effective Curriculum implementation.

2. The Western Cape Rally Host, Sponsors and Team Leaders

THE HOST PARTNER FOR THE WESTERN CAPE RALLY TO READ (2018 - 2021)

The Western Cape Rally Host facilitates, through funding and broad support, the collaboration of like-minded funding partners to support and enhance the quality of education provided in rural Western Cape schools, and to help ensure that “no child is left behind”.





The Western Cape Rally to Read host for 2018-2021 is The Jonsson Foundation. In this role it funds the Rally Weekend costs, ensuring that the contribution of Rally partners/funders is used solely for the benefit of the schools.

The READ Educational Trust has a multi-faceted role as the national Rally organiser, facilitator and delivery partner for the educational programme that follows the Rally weekends. READ has been the key driver and organiser of the Rally since its inception in 1998.

WESTERN CAPE RALLY TO READ FUNDING PARTNERS

ACA Threads
Bauer Reuvers & Associates
Bidvest Facilities Management
Charles Harding Charitable Trust
ENS Africa
Eris Property Group
Fraser Global Trading
FutureGrowth
Isuzu South Africa
Joan St Leger Lindbergh Charitable Trust
Kaap Agri
Mediclinic
Michael von der Heyde
Namaqualand Wines
Noakes Family Charitable Trust
Old Mutual Investment Group Green Hands Trust
OneLogik United Bulk Group
Porsche South Africa
R. S. Davey
Sandie & Nick Green
Silverhill Seeds and Books
Smile 90.4FM
Suzuki Auto South Africa
We Buy Cars

A warm thank you to, and celebration of, the Western Cape Rally to Read 2019's partners.

Your contribution has been used to fund:

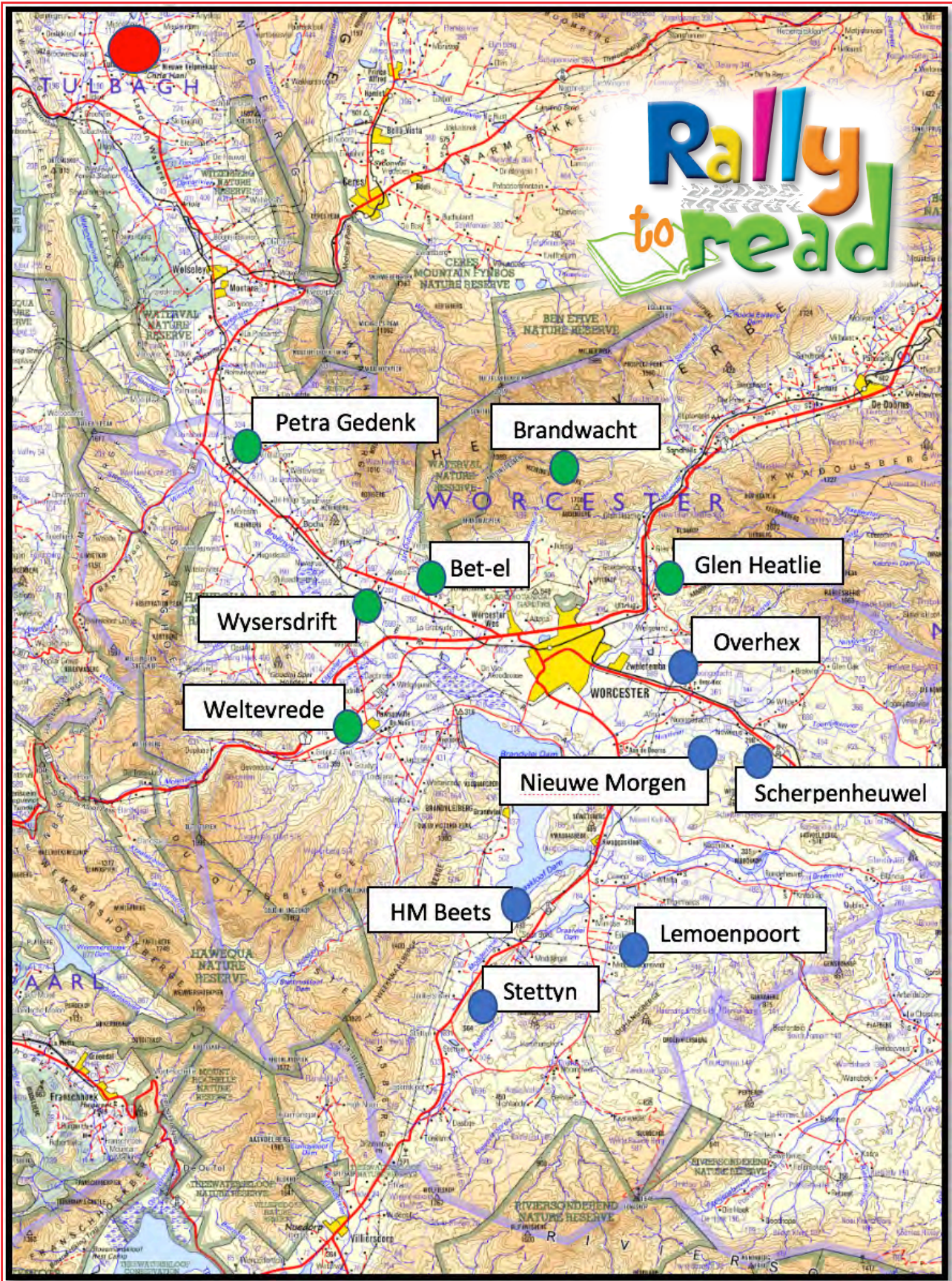
- the materials being delivered this weekend (47%);
- the costs of our READ trainer (including his transport and accommodation) to provide support to the 12 rural schools for a 1-year period (49%)
- the balance of 4% is used to contribute to funding
 - a meal for each learner who participates in the Rally's Saturday event (R29 000 – R1 000 per sponsor).
 - transport to get learners to school on Rally Saturday (R500 per school)
 - managing the programme including monitoring, evaluation, as well as reporting on teacher / school progress.

ADDITIONAL SUPPORT FOR THIS RALLY HAS COME FROM ...

1. The Jonsson Foundation	Hosting costs (accommodation and meals); teacher bags
2. Bidvest McCarthy VW Parow	Sponsored Saturday's breakfast, as well as provided key logistical support throughout the Western Cape Rally
3. Kempston	Donated soccer, rugby and netballs for each school
4. BIC	2000 Black, blue and red pens for teachers and learners
5. Bidfoods	On-the-road snacks for Rally participants
6. OneLogix United Bulk Group	Free transporting of Rally educational resources from READING Matters in Johannesburg to Cape Town
7. Stettyn Vineyards & De Wet Wine Cellars	Donated wine for prizes
8. Office Depot	Donated plastic to cover books
9. Barrows / Do More Foundation	Additional educational materials for Grade R and Foundation Phase classes at each school
10. Noakes Family Charitable Trust	Donated R15 000 for additional Grade R resources
11. Charles Harding Charitable Trust	Donated R27 000 for additional Grade R resources
12. Joan St Leger Lindbergh Charitable Trust	Donated R14 000 for additional Grade R resources
13. Smile 90.4FM	Communication support
14. Brand SA	Sponsored pencil cases for learners
15. SMG Tygervalley	Loan vehicles for the Host and photographer on the Rally Weekend. Supplied bottled water for the Rally Participants
16. Saronsberg Wine Estate	Donated bottles Saronsberg Brut MCC for the Rally Dinner; as well as a discount on venue hire and wine



MAP OF WESTERN CAPE RALLY TO READ SCHOOLS



First Rally School



Second Rally School



Overnight Stay



Rally To Read 2019 School Profiles

WESTERN CAPE RALLY TO READ 2019: YEAR TWO

BET-EL NGK PRIMÊR

This small school is situated in the Olifantsberg area, approximately 8 kilometres from Worcester. It was initially a church school that was started 43 years ago by the Worcester Vallei NGK who still owns the land today. The school was originally housed in the nearby Community Centre for about 18 years.

As with many of our rural schools in the Western Cape, Bet-El has multi-graded classrooms. The Gr 1 & 2 classes are combined, and 3 grades are in one classroom (Gr 4,5,6) in the Intermediate Phase. The LOLT (Language of Learning & Teaching) is Afrikaans throughout. The Peninsula Feeding Scheme operates at the school providing meals to all the learners. The learners come from the surrounding farms and many from the Rainbow Chicken Complex. The WCED has a school bus transporting learners to and from the latter. The principal is Mrs Annelize Joubert.

BRANDWACHT NGK PRIMÊR

This Afrikaans medium school is situated in the incredibly beautiful area of Brandwacht, surrounded by spectacular mountains. It started as a church school 53 years ago when the Moller family (local farmers) donated the land to the VGK Church who developed it and built the school. New prefabricated rooms have been added since. The church still uses the hall on Sundays and the premises is hired from the church by the Western Cape Education Department. The learners come from 19 surrounding farms and small holdings and the farm owners transport the learners to and from school.

The 5 teachers at the school care for learners from Gr R to Gr 6. The Gr 2 & 3 and the Gr 5 & 6 classes are multi-graded where learners from both grades are taught by 1 teacher in the same classroom. The principal is Mr Shafiek Gallie who is extremely positive, has known about the Rally for some time and is delighted the school is now part of the project..

GLEN HEATLIE AME PRIMÊR

This school is situated in the beautiful area of DeWet, midway between Worcester and The Hex River Valley, with stunning views of the Hex River Mountains. It was started 88 years ago when the farmer, Glen Heatlie, donated the land to the African Methodist Episcopal Church and Mrs Allie Le Roux became the first teacher. The present office building was originally the farmhouse, which was later converted. A number of prefabricated classrooms have since been added.



There is 1 Gr R class, 1 Gr RR, and 1 class in each of the other seven grades. The 10 teachers are led and supported by Mr Aubrey Lawrence, the principal, who has been at the school for only 3 years. The learners live on surrounding farms and receive 2 daily meals at school provided by the Peninsula School Feeding Association. These meals are enriched with vegetables grown in the school garden, something the school is very proud of. As with all the Rally schools, the Language of Learning and Teaching (LOLT) is Afrikaans.

HM BEETS PRIMÊR

This small school was started in 1923 in the Moddergat Area, mid-way between Worcester and Villiersdorp. The original school was situated across the tar road and the school moved to its present premises in around 1990. The school is situated on land that belongs to the Brandvlei Correctional Services. Learners live on surrounding wine farms and their parents are mostly farm workers. HM Beets is the smallest of the Rally schools with 4 teachers and 81 learners from Grade R to Grade 6. Grade 1, 2 & 3 learners are combined in one class, Grade 4 is on its own and Gr 5&6 are combined as well. The buildings are old, but well maintained and colourful. The principal, Mrs Myrtle Grove, has been at the school for 9 years and was previously at Waboomsheuwel near Bonnievale which participated in a previous Rally. There is a WCED school bus in operation. The school was part of the Rally Project from 2002-2004 when Mrs Panday was the principal.

LEMOENPOORT PRIMÊR

This small farm school was part of the Rally Project from 2002 to 2004 when Mrs Simone Witbooi was the headmistress. It is situated on the Lemoenpoort Farm, approximately 30 kilometres from Worcester. It is uncertain exactly how old the school is, but it was started between 70 and 75 years ago by the farm owner Pieter Francois Viljoen, grandfather of the present owner. The first principal and teacher was Mr Louis Pick. The Peninsula School Feeding Association operates at the school providing 2 meals per day to learners who live on 5 farms in the surrounding area. The present principal, Mr Anton de Wet has been teaching at the school since 2002.

Lemoenpoort is fairly small with only 4 teachers. There are also 3 Teaching Assistants, who went to Lemoenpoort as learners themselves. Like most of the Rally schools it is also multi-graded and Gr 1&2, Gr 3&4 and Gr 5&6 are all combined. There is 1 Gr R class in a very small, narrow container.



NIEUWE MORGEN PRIMÊR



Nieuwe Morgen was originally a church school started by the NGK Noord Gemeente. It was called “Moordkuil Primer”, but because of the negative connotation to the name it was eventually changed to its present name after the Education Department bought the land from the church. The buildings are old and fairly run-down. The school participated in the 2002-2004 Rally under a previous principal, Mr Esterhuizen. The school is situated in between a number of farms close to the Alfalfa Estate. There are 6 teachers at the school and 135 learners ranging from Gr R to Gr 7. The school is part of the Western Cape Education Department’s transport system and there is also a feeding scheme in operation. Learners live on 12 surrounding farms where their parents are employed. Mrs Shameema Majiet has been the acting principal since the sudden and unexpected passing away of Mr Thomas Calitz who had been principal for a number of years.

OVERHEX PRIMÊR

Overhex is the largest of the 12 Rally schools. There are 2 Gr R classes, 2 Gr 2 classes and 2 Gr 7 classes. There are no multi-graded(combined) classes. The school which was started in 1935 is situated in the Overhex area, just off the R60 main road, ten kilometres from Worcester. It was originally part of the Nooitgedacht Farm. The school grounds and buildings belong to the church and are hired by the Western Cape Education Department. The school was part of the 2002-2004 Rally when it was much smaller and had far fewer learners. A number of prefabricated classrooms have since been added. The Peninsula School Feeding Association operates at the school, supplying meals to most of the learners. The principal, Mr David Sauer, has been at the school for 35 years and has been principal for 20 years. It is an Afrikaans-medium school with English as the First Additional Language.

PETRA GEDENK V GK PRIMÊR

Petra Gedenk V GK is 43 years old and the school was originally started on land donated to the church by local farmers, Petrus and Aletta. It is situated in the Breerivier area near Wolseley. The



learners live on surrounding farms where the majority of their parents are employed. Most of the learners enjoy meals provided by the Peninsula Feeding Scheme and many of them are transported by the WCED school bus. The Acting principal, Ms Alexander, has been at the school for 16 years. Petra Gedenk is the second largest Rally school, has 296 learners from Gr R to Gr 7 and 10 teachers. There are 2 Gr R and Gr2 classes and no classes are multi-graded (2 or more grades in one class.)

SCHERPENHEUWEL PRIMËR

This small farm school was started in 1974 by Mr G.L. Horn who became one of the first teachers. The land (1 hectare) was sold to the church for R1 by the farmer and it remained a Church School until 2003 when it was taken over by the WCED. The “Scherpenheuvel Vereniging” supports the school in various ways and has built an extra classroom and pay for the maintenance of the buildings. Parents work on numerous farms in the area and support the school with their knowledge



and free labour to do maintenance. The WCED Transport Service operates at the school and collects the learners from 11 surrounding farms. The Gr 1&2, Gr3&4 and Gr5&6 classes are multi-graded (learners from 2 grades taught by the same teacher in one classroom). Scherpenheuvel was part of the 2002-2004 Rally, but the principal and teachers who were at the school then, have all since left or retired. The current principal, Mrs Maryna Visagie, has been at the school since mid-2010. Learners receive breakfast and lunch via the School Feeding Scheme.

STETTYN PRIMËR

Stettyn Primary is situated on the Stettyn Wine Farm in the beautiful Bossieveld area about 20 kms from Villiersdorp. Mr A Botha, grandfather of the present owner, Hendrik Botha agreed to build a school on the farm which was officially opened in February 1962 with 50 pupils and Mr Fillis as the first principal. At present the building is leased by the Western Cape Education Department who is responsible for the upkeep of the inside, whilst the farmer sees to the upkeep of outside. The buildings are old and fairly run down. The LOLT (Language of Learning & Teaching) at the school is Afrikaans.

There are presently 100 learners (Gr R to Gr 7) and 5 teachers at the school. Mr Charles Kleintjies is the acting head, after Mr Wilson, the headmaster who was at the school for 19 years, retired earlier this year due to ill health. The school participated in the 2002 – 2004 Rally. The pupils come from 18 small farms in the area and most of the learners walk to school, some up to 5 kms. There is no school bus or bus service, but some of the farmers drop and collect a number of the pupils, especially in poor weather. The Peninsula School Feeding Scheme ensures that learners receive daily meals.



WELTEVREDE DRC PRIMÊR

The school is situated in the Louwhoek area, a few kilometres outside Rawsonville. The feeder areas include the farming communities of Pokkraal, Roeswater, Merwida, Voorsorg and Boontjiesrivier. All these areas struggle with high unemployment rates and many families live under the breadline.

The school was originally called Voorsorg Skool and the first pupils were enrolled during 1961. The land had been donated by Mrs Du Toit from Weltevrede Farm to the DR Missionary Church who appointed Mr G Cornellissen as the first headmaster. The school does not have a sustainable water supply and water is supplied by the neighbouring Dasch Bosch Cellar as part of a BEE Project. The school is a “no-fee school” and all learners participate in the School Feeding Programme. Learners develop computer literacy skills through a partnership with Du Toitskloof Wines.

There are 208 learners and 8 teachers at the school and there is 1 class per grade ranging from Gr R to Gr 7. All classes are Afrikaans medium and English is the First Additional Language.

WYSERSDRIFT PRIMÊR

Wyersdrift Primary is an Afrikaans-medium school situated in the Goudiniweg area, just off the R43 between Worcester and Wolseley. It was founded in 1939 and the original school building was on Wyersdrift Farm but moved about 20 years ago when a creche took over the premises. All the classrooms are prefabricated, extremely cold in the winter and very hot in the summer months. The acting principal Mr Donald Marries, took over when Ms Jennifer Wilson, retired at the end of last year. There are 204 learners at the school with one class per grade from Gr R to Gr 6. There is a Feeding Scheme in operation at the school providing daily meals to most of the learners, whilst the WCED school bus transports the majority of learners who live on surrounding farms.

4. Western Cape RALLY to READ



2019 WEEKEND PROGRAMME

FRIDAY, 18 OCTOBER 2019

Throughout the day participants to collect resources for delivery from VW Parow 270 Voortrekker Road, Parow.
(Your Team Leader will contact you beforehand to coordinate)

SATURDAY, 19 OCTOBER 2019

06:15	<p>Start arriving / meeting at VW Parow 270 Voortrekker Road, Parow</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Your Team leader would have advised you on your team colour. Please park within the area of your allocated team colour Enjoy a light breakfast while waiting for everyone to arrive
06:30 - 07:30	<p>Briefing session on the Rally to Read programme, the area and the schools to be visited Individual Teams will be briefed by their Team Leaders and a picnic lunch will be distributed. Depart in your Team Convoys to visit your 2 schools</p>
09:30 – 14:00	<p>At the schools:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unpacking and delivering of books and educational resources Short programme and presentation, symbolic signing of the contract between the school and the Rally to Read Tour of school, interaction with teachers, learners and parents <p>Note: The Rally will support 12 schools for a period of 3 years (2018 – 2020). The purpose of the Rally is to assist teachers to maintain the momentum of the Rally to Read programme.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Once the schools have been visited, teams will proceed to Tulbagh to check-in to your allocated accommodation, which consists of a variety of historic establishments in the village, as well as several venues located on the outskirts of town. The afternoon is at your leisure, though we encourage you to explore the village and all it has to offer.
18:30	<p>Pre-Dinner drinks will be at the beautiful Saronsberg Wine Estate, followed by a relaxed harvest table dinner and feedback on the day's events (19:00).</p>

SATURDAY, 19 OCTOBER 2019

07:00	<p>Breakfast will be served at your lodgings. Return to Cape Town at your leisure</p>
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Rally Weekend Guidelines

USEFUL INFORMATION TO READ BEFORE YOU LEAVE

Team leaders and teams:

There are approximately 50 vehicles on each Rally, and we visit between 10 and 13 schools on each. The vehicles are divided into 5 or 6 teams, with each delivering materials to 2 or 3 schools. Each team has a team leader who knows his/her way to the schools, is fully briefed on the programme and is knowledgeable about off-road driving.

Your team leader's tasks are to ensure that your team delivers the right materials, to the right schools, at the right time. He/she is also there to ensure that you enjoy your trip. Team leaders carry a vehicle repair kit as well as a small first aid kit. **Please keep your team leader's cell phone number handy.**

Information about the Rally:

The **Rally to Read folder** contains general information about your Rally, the Weekend Programme, information regarding the schools that you will be visiting as well as the information from the READ Educational Trust regarding their quality assurance framework. Your journey will surely be enhanced if you read it en-route.

The **briefing session** on Saturday morning aims to provide information about the project, area, schools and plans for the weekend.

Meeting and Departure:

Your team leader will contact you in the week before the Rally to confirm the meeting time and place for your team. The meeting time at **VW Parow, 270 Voortrekker Road, at 06:00 am on Saturday morning**. Should you be running late please contact your team leader as we stick to a tight schedule and therefore will be leaving the meeting place on time as planned.

Breakfast:

On arrival at VW Parow, there will be a light breakfast and a short briefing for the day. **Please ensure that you depart on an empty bladder as ablution facilities after breakfast are very limited.**

Loading of materials:

The box libraries and other materials will be loaded into vehicles on Friday. Therefore, **please take a small amount of luggage in order to leave maximum space for the loading.** That is, after all, one

of the main reasons why you are going. Your Team Leader will advise about the logistics of loading prior to the Rally Weekend.



Vehicles:

Rally participants travel in their own vehicles.

Fuel:

Filling up on Saturday morning can add an hour to the convoy's journey and, as mentioned earlier, our schedule is very tight. You will probably use a full tank of fuel over the weekend (approximately 600kms). Your team leader will know where the closest petrol stations are in the Rally area. Inform him/her when you need to top up your tank.

Clothing:

Dress is casual/comfortable wear all weekend. Bear in mind however, that the reception at the schools usually involves teachers and community representatives who are elegantly dressed. Somehow shorts, skimpy clothes and flip flops look inappropriate. **Please note that it can be very cold in the mornings and evenings at this time of the year, so please check the weather forecast and come prepared.**

Visiting the schools:

The purpose of visiting the schools is to deliver the materials and to meet the learners, parents and educators. Our visits serve to ensure that these schools do not feel isolated and to remind the teachers of the importance of their task at hand. Therefore, your interest in their school is appreciated. Each school visit lasts about 1½ hours.

- The key people to greet when you arrive would be the Principal, the Chairperson of the School Governing Body and, possibly, a leader from the community.
- Although we inform the schools that we do not expect refreshments, should these be served, you are encouraged to be sociable and to enjoy their hospitality.
- It is critically important that all of us participate in the reception and presentation at the schools. The schools anticipate this.
- Feel free to ask for a tour of the school and to ask questions.
- Teams Leaders will indicate departure times, which must be adhered to as the schedule is tight.

Useful things for the road:

Wet wipes, hand sanitiser, tissues, water, binoculars, a camera, extra snacks, a picnic blanket, torch and mozzie spray are useful things to take along. If you walk in the long grass, you are advised to spray mozzie repellent on your shoes, socks, lower legs or pants. It apparently discourages ticks from choosing you as their means of transport.





Accommodation, meals and drinks:

The Jonsson Foundation hosts the cost of the food, wine, soft drinks and accommodation for the weekend. A cash bar will be available on the Saturday night at the dinner function. The shared accommodation varies – in quality and type – and is largely determined by what is available in these remote areas on such a large scale. Therefore, please do not expect too much – and you will be pleasantly surprised!

We will provide a picnic pack for Saturday lunch. Your team leader will have a cooler bag of soft drinks/water in the vehicle. Please feel free to request a drink. Teams will arrive in Tulbagh and proceed to their respective accommodations for check-in. Details of your accommodation are provided in this manual. Dinner will be at Saronsberg Wine Estate, with pre-dinner drinks at 18H30.

Driving in convoy:

Driving in convoy in the rural areas is considered quite safe.

Your team leader will brief you on driving in convoy, but these 5 “rules” are simple and useful, but mostly not followed by un-informed drivers! ****TRAVEL AT 80 KM/PH****

1. Ensure that the person driving behind you – your “buddy” vehicle – is always visible in your rear-view mirror. Should you not see this vehicle for a while, slow down, then if necessary, stop and wait. The vehicle in front of you will do the same, and so on, until the team leader returns to see if there is a problem;



2. Indicate well ahead of time when you are about to turn, then wait for your “buddy” vehicle to see you before you take the turn.
3. If you have a problem, flash your lights at the vehicle in front of you and slow down. The vehicle in front should do the same until the team leader returns to investigate.
4. And don't forget to leave sufficient space between you and the vehicle in front, as this minimises your chances of getting a chipped windscreen and also allows for safe overtaking where other motorists are in a hurry.
5. Obey all speed limits and traffic signs/signals. No overtaking in convoy and strictly **NO ALCOHOL**.

5a. Some interesting information about the Cape Winelands area

Villiersdorp

Villiersdorp is a town of approximately 10,000 people located in the Western Cape province of South Africa in the Overberg region.

Unlike most of the geographical region which specialises in wheat and canola farming, the Villiersdorp Valley is now agriculturally and in micro-climate more similar to the Elgin Valley and



Grabouw since the building of the Theewaterskloof Dam, and thus also specialises in deciduous fruit farming and viticulture. The Theewaterskloof Dam, the largest dam in the Western Cape and 7th largest in South Africa and important water supply to Cape Town fills the majority of the valley floor. The town is named after Field Cornet Pieter de Villiers, a local farmer who founded the settlement in 1843.

Worcester

Being the largest town in the Western Cape's interior region, it serves as the administrative capital of the Breede Valley Local Municipality and as regional headquarters for most central and Provincial Government Departments. The town also serves as the hub of the Western Cape's interior commercial, distribution and retail activity with a shopping mall, well developed central business district and infrastructure.

Geographically, the district is delimited mainly by mountains; to the southwest lies the massive Stettyn mountain range with an annual rainfall in excess of 2000 mm. To the west lie the Du Toitskloof



mountains and northwest lies the Slanghoek, Little Drakenstein, Elandskloof and Lemiet mountain ranges. To the north rises the Hex River Mountains which include the towering peaks of Chavonness, Brandwacht, Fonteintjiesberg and Audensberg. Northeast of the town the colourful Keerom Mountain runs into the Langeberg range.

Worcester and its surroundings form part of the Breede River

catchment area, which is fed by a number of smaller rivers supplemented by the run-off from the winter snows in the mountains. The district also includes the Hex River Valley.



Hex River Valley

The Hex River Mountains make up the second highest mountain range in the Western Cape. They form part of a large anticline in the Cape Fold Belt mountain system and form a north-east, south-west trending mountain system forming the core of the Cape Syntaxis between the towns of Worcester and De Doorns. They are mostly composed of Table Mountain sandstone and most peaks reach 2,000 metres in height or more. The highest mountain is Matroosberg at 2,249 metres, making it the second tallest peak in the province after Seweweekspoort Peak in the Swartberg Mountain Range.

The vegetation is primarily montane fynbos and the mountains fall within the Cape's Mediterranean climate. The mountains provide some rudimentary snow-skiing opportunities in winter, with the Western Cape's heaviest snowfalls occurring in and around these ranges. The surrounding valleys support intensive deciduous fruit cultivation, mostly in the form of cherries and table grapes.



Robertson

The town was founded in 1853 and named after the Scottish Dutch Reformed Church Minister, Dr William Robertson.

Situated in the fertile Robertson Valley, farming and wagon building were the town's original industries. However, after the Second Anglo-Boer War of 1899, the wagon building industry collapsed when the railways took over the transport of all goods.



Robertson subsequently became famous for its ostrich farming, but this industry collapsed as well shortly after World War I and thus the farmers of the area turned to wine and fruit farming. Later, several successful racehorse stud farms were founded. Agriculture remains the mainstay of the town's economy up to the present day



McGregor

McGregor is a small village in the mountains of the Western Cape, South Africa. The village was established in 1861 and was originally called Lady Grey. It was renamed in 1905 in honour of Rev. Andrew McGregor, who had been the Dutch Reformed Church minister of the Robertson District for forty years. It has become somewhat of a magnet for alternative lifestyles. The local Waldorf school has roughly 167 children. It is part of the broader wine route network of the Western Cape and is situated at one end of the popular Boesmanskloof Trail to the town of Greyton to the south. The village also has a permanent art route, as well as a donkey sanctuary which is funded by an annual books sale.

Tulbagh

Tulbagh, named after Dutch Cape Colony Governor Ryk Tulbagh, is a town located in the “Land van Waveren” mountain basin in the Winelands of the Western Cape. The basin is fringed on three sides by mountains.

In September 1969 the Boland area was hit by South Africa’s worst earthquake which caused considerable damage to the town of Tulbagh. 2019 marks the 50th anniversary of this historic event that destroyed many of the Church Street buildings.

After the disaster in Church Street extensive projects of restoration began with the National Committee for the Restoration of Historic Buildings in Tulbagh. Because of this work Tulbagh now contains possibly the largest number of Cape-Dutch, Edwardian and Victorian provincial heritage sites in one street in South Africa, and remains a major tourist attraction of the town to the present day.





5b. THE READ EDUCATIONAL TRUST

READ operates primarily as an educator development agency in the fields of language, literacy and communication and is a leader in educational assessment, materials development and resource provision.

Its mission is to help people throughout southern Africa develop their reading, writing, learning, information and communication skills so that they may become independent, life-long learners.

READ Educational Trust is headed up by Bertus Matthee, the National Director.

- It is a Section 18a NPO and a Level 1 B-BBEE organisation.
- The Chairman of the Trust is Ms Charmaine Smith.
- The READ website is: www.read.org.za and contact details: 087 237 7781.

The READ Educational Trust and Rally to Read

Since day one, the READ Educational Trust has provided the literacy training and source material for the Rally to Read. In 2018, READ also took over the coordination of the Rally Weekend and recruitment of sponsors.



5c. THE READ EDUCATIONAL TRUST TRAINING PROGRAMME IN SUPPORT OF THE RALLY SCHOOLS



- The need for the programme
- Training and support
- The resources
- The Rally “legacy”

Rural Schools: Challenges and successes

Rural schools are usually so isolated they are not regularly visited by education department officials for mentoring and monitoring purposes.

There is a higher teacher turnover in these schools because of their remoteness and lack of basic resources in the community such as proper housing, clinics and shops. Schools lose trained educators and every term new ones have to be trained. This makes the training of the

school management team and heads of departments particularly important for sustainability.

Despite this, there are rural schools that are particularly successful. The success factors, gleaned from studying the Rally to Read programme, which indicate successful implementation are:

Dedication of the school manager and the school governing body

School managers who are passionate about their work and demonstrate superb leadership skills

They encourage teamwork in their schools, attend all planned training and motivate their staff to implement every course. They create a warm atmosphere which is conducive to monitoring and learning in their schools. They lead by example in the implementation process.

School managers that are willing to go the extra mile (often quite literally) examples of this type of behaviour are:

The manager who attended all training sessions, and called the trainer to help her school even when it was not her school's planned time. She led by example in the teaching of science and literacy, and introduced new teachers to the programme. When the Rally to Read trainer arrived she would ask the trainer to check the training she had done with new teachers. She lived far from the school, but was always prepared to be at school with her team getting advice from the trainer long after school hours.



Empowered and well trained educators

However dedicated a school manager is, it is only possible to implement the Rally to Read programme if the educators in the school have been properly exposed to the methodologies taught in this programme. They need to take ownership of the programme, and feel empowered to use it properly. Their buy in and cooperation is important.

All educators implementing the programme can only do so successfully if they believe the programme is worthwhile. This is something that comes from management buy-in, but is also a personal thing for each teacher.

An example of this taking ownership is the deputy principal of one school, who tirelessly works to support all educators in the implementation of the new methodologies. When she feels that the class is not print rich, she makes the teaching aids herself. The school also has a dedicated leader teacher who helps the deputy principal in the training of new recruits who are then handed over to the trainer for refinement.



Continuous and stringent quality assurance

The Rally to Read programme has as part of its core the mentoring and quality assurance of the educators, which is done by the Read Trainers. It is as important for the trainers to have a passion for the programme, and for education, as it is for the educators implementing the programme. Where trainers are dedicated and hardworking, and flexible enough to problem solve where problems arise, the programme runs more smoothly.

Support from the Department of Basic Education

Above all, the support of the District circuit manager has been extremely important to the success of the project. The department plays a key role in helping organize when training and evaluation visits can take place. Without their support the programme would not be possible.

Success is not an accident

Based on the experience of working in rural schools in the Rally to Read project, it can be argued that passionate, dedicated, and self motivated principals and teachers are the key to success.

The commitment of the school management team who works under guidance of the dedicated school manager, the support of the school governing body and the mentoring and monitoring of regional directors and officials are key factors to effective education.





TRAINING & SUPPORT:

The Rally Weekend is just the beginning!

Once the resources have been delivered and the weekend is over, the work really begins. The READ trainers start a year-long programme of school visits to conduct classroom support, mentoring and teacher training.

In partnership with the Provincial Education Departments, READ implements a Balanced Language Approach (BLA) targeting the key literacy methodologies which form the National Curriculum (CAPS). The training also demonstrates and encourages the effective use of resources, allowing teachers to maximise the impact of The Rally in supporting the improvement of literacy levels amongst the

learners. Training, support and resources provision are tailored to individual school needs.

CAPS Methodologies include: Shared Reading, Shared Writing, Word & Sentence Level Work, Group Guided Reading, Group Reading and Reading Aloud.

Classroom Support Visits allow trainers to assess the effective implementation of the methodologies, assess progress, share ideas and suggestions, promoting best practices. The READ trainers also conduct Demonstration Lessons or co-teach, which enable teachers to observe the correct implementation of the BLA methodologies within the context of their own classroom environment.

RESOURCES:

Designed to specifically develop literacy and assist with the effective implementation of the National Curriculum (CAPS), the resources are key to the development of essential basic reading, language and communication skills. Though grade and level specific, the books are also designed to be engaging, stimulating and, above all, fun! The books cover various themes and topics, and include Fiction, Non-Fiction and Reference.

KEY QUESTIONS ABOUT THE RESOURCES:

Q: Why are there multiple copies of the same book?

A: Multiple copies of the same title are key to developing essential reading skills through Group and Guided Reading where learners read in small groups, getting extra reading and practice time. Group Reading provides each learner multiple opportunities to read in a non-threatening and peer supported environment.

Q: Why do we use Big Books?

A: Provided in the Foundation Phase, Big Books allow teachers to model reading and to share a text with an entire class. It provides opportunities for prediction, picture interpretation and visual discrimination. It also helps in boosting confidence as it allows individual learners to

join in when they feel ready to participate.

Q: Why do we put different languages into different Phases?

A: Schools have different Language policies (LOLT). In some schools learners are taught in their Home Language (HL) in the Foundation Phase but are taught in a First Additional Language (FAL) in the Intermediate and Senior Phase. In other schools learners are taught in their HL throughout their schooling.

Q: Why are the same titles provided in different grades, but in another language?

A: This is done to bridge the language gap for learners going from reading in their Home Language (HL) to their First Additional Language (FAL). Providing the same titles in HL and then again in FAL allows the learners to relearn and consolidate stories they are already familiar with, but in a new language.

Q: Why does the Rally deliver the resources in wooden boxes?

A: Along with the reading material, the Rally also provides wooden library boxes which provide secure storage. This helps protect the resources, ensuring a longer lifespan of the books and extending the benefit of the resources beyond the Project Cycle.

THE RALLY LEGACY AND HOW YOU CAN CARRY IT FORWARD

Throughout its 22-year history one of the most enduring aspects of The Rally is the lasting relationships that Rally participants foster with schools after The Rally Day has come and gone – this is what we refer to as The Rally Legacy.

Though the Rally Day itself is followed up with a year of teacher training and classroom support, it doesn't have to stop there. Through direct interactions with schools, The Rally offers companies and their staff a unique insight into the daily lives of some of South Africa's most underprivileged learners. This affords sponsors the opportunity to evaluate the non-literacy needs of the schools first-hand and assist in ways that go beyond the scope of The Rally itself.

- They have provided sports kits, stationary, musical instruments, laptops to the schools.
- They have also repaired infrastructure, painted buildings, erected additional classrooms, tiled floors, assisted with improving existing sporting facilities and growing vegetables – often with the help of parents and the wider school community.
- The Rally encourages participants to actively engage with both teachers and learners whilst at the schools to gain a better understanding of the challenges they face. After all, the Rally Day may just be the start of a long and rewarding relationship with the schools and their wider community.





5e. RALLY TO READ'S STORY

by David Furlonger

Behind every successful man, it used to be said, is a strong woman – though whether one may express that idea in the modern social environment is open to question.

What isn't in doubt, however, is that behind every successful social initiative is a strong, committed lead partner.

After Rally to Read was launched in 1998, the McCarthy Group drove its phenomenal growth for nearly 15 years. Bidvest took on the role briefly after buying McCarthy. Now **The Jonsson Foundation** has accepted the challenge of cementing and deepening Rally to Read's unique contribution to South African education.

Literacy is a necessary starting point for any successful nation. In some rural areas of South Africa, however, it has been an unattainable dream for millions of children. Provincial education budgets, already stretched to breaking point in urban schools, have little left for those out of sight in mountains, valleys, deserts or remote farming areas. Since these comprise much of SA, that's a huge issue.

Many of these schools lack basic educational materials like books, stationery and even desks. In some, over 100 children cram into a single classroom which itself may have holes in the wall or ceiling. Access to electricity and sanitation is not guaranteed.

The average 14-year-old rural South African child has a reading age of seven. In addition to being denied the pleasure of reading, this functional illiteracy makes it hard for them to find formal employment. Besides the children themselves, their families and communities are also denied the future they have been promised.

This is where Rally to Read comes in. Since 1998, it has offered hope to more than 16,000 primary schools, 12,000 teachers and 250,000 children. The formula is surprisingly simple: identify rural schools that can benefit, provide them with portable classroom libraries crammed with reading books, and other educational materials; train the teachers to use the new resources; and then monitor progress of teachers and children alike. Each school is supported for three years, with new books and stationery each year.

Oh, and because school should also be fun, the programme also provides sports equipment like footballs, rugby balls, netballs and cricket sets.

While the formula is simple, implementation isn't. That's where **The Jonsson Foundation** comes in. A steering committee, headed by Rally to Read founder Brand Pretorius, oversees the programme but it is **Jonsson** that allows it the financial and organisational muscle to do so. **Jonsson** is represented on the committee by one of

its Trustees Pam Richardson and the Foundation Director Joy Mills-Hackmann.

The programme fits in with **Jonsson Workwear Holdings'** pursuit of a shared value for all. Rally to Read provides that. Down the years, hundreds of sponsor companies have participated because they share its vision of providing all children with a solid educational foundation.

It's about creating a better life by providing solutions, says **Jonsson's** Chairman and Chief Executive Nick Jonsson. That means more than plain education. "It is not just expanding their mind and knowledge. We want future- proofed leaders with intellect, wisdom and values."

He adds: "We want our future leaders to be robust, fit for purpose and dependable - with a strong sense of values."

Simple literacy alone doesn't do that. Anyone who's been on a Rally to Read weekend knows that one of the most heartening experiences is to see children transform from shy and withdrawn to outgoing and sociable over the course of the three-years intervention. That's what education and communication skills do for you. They give you confidence and self-worth.

Teachers, meanwhile, gain enhanced motivation and pride, and shared purpose with colleagues in neighbouring schools.

Rally schools, meanwhile, become known for providing good education and enjoy being part of an ongoing process of improvement.

For parents and communities, meanwhile, there's the knowledge that they are no longer abandoned and that their children finally have access to a proper education.

These are not idle goals. Sponsors see for themselves the impact their generosity is having. What makes Rally to Read truly unique is that sponsors join organisers to deliver their goods in person. Convoys of offroad vehicles spend weekends criss-crossing remote parts of South Africa, to reach the schools that education authorities often don't. There, they meet children, teachers and communities, see the realities of rural education, and gain a sense of what they can do to solve the problem.

Independent studies show that children at Rally schools rapidly close the rural literacy gap, and are able to continue their education at high school and even university.

Rally to Read's core purpose is summed up in the words: "No child left behind". **Jonsson** is a key player in fulfilling that promise.

