

lifestyle

YOUR PASSPORT TO HOLIDAY FUN

spectacular blues in umzombe

The unconventional band plays a mix of Afrikaans blues, rock and funky grooves.
JUDI DAVIS REPORTS.

THE Rock Bottom Music Bistro in Umzombe and 3rd Ear Music will present a special South African blues experience at the Rock this Sunday afternoon, June 9.

This will be another free entry gig but, with winter and harder times on the way, music lovers are asked to bring along donations of old clothes, cans of food or unwanted tools for various local charities. The old miner's hat will be passed around as well.

Guest band will be the Zwarte Piet Afrikaans blues and rock band, a group that certainly doesn't fit the conventional mould. The four mu-

sos are Zwarte Piet (aka Dr Eugene Viljoen) on lead guitar and vocals, Geelman Jan (aka Roly Struckmeyer) on bass guitar, Rooinek Kooos (aka Rod Nichols) on rhythm guitar and Blou-Bloed Boet (aka Grant Halliday) on drums.

Their music is a mix of Afrikaans blues and rock with funky grooves thrown in for good measure. Screaming guitar work, very catchy hooks with solid groove bass and drums provide the backdrop of great music. Importantly, the Zwarte Piet Band has some of South African music's most relevant lyrics at the



Afrikaans blues: The Zwarte Piet Afrikaans blues and rock band will be at Rock Bottom, Umzombe, this Sunday afternoon.

moment. It provides a unique and honest Afrikaans perspective of the life and times of South Africa. The band is described as extremely clever, intuitive, witty, cutting and downright fun. It is made up of older guys (not too old) who have been playing music for a long, long time.

All of the band members did national service, fighting (rightly or wrongly, who knows) for their country. They come from different parts of South Africa, have travelled the world and some of them even have grown-up children. Some have been professional musos all their working lives while others pursued careers but kept close to the music world.

All are songwriters and all of them have played in loads of different types of bands. Although the Zwarte Piet Band has only been together for about a year it has already played some great festivals and gigs and has recently completed its debut CD, 'Onderstebo'.

Joining this band on Sunday will be special guest and music legend Ju-

lian Laxton, playing with the Rock Bottom Band. Music lovers will remember Julian from the 'Julian Laxton Band' of the 1980s and 1990s, from 'Freedom's Children' and from the popular 1960s band, 'Mel, Mel and Julian'.

Jamming with the Rock Bottom band last Sunday, he was a huge hit - as was the band of elders, now more respectfully renamed the 'Rock Bottom Band' - or the 'Rocking Bottoms', if you prefer.

An unpretentious venue, Rock Bottom is packed to the rafters with soul and is a great place for music lovers of all ages. It has just undergone a facelift to cater for bigger bands and more fans. Booking is strongly advised, particularly during holiday season and weekends.



Rising stars: The enthusiastic cast of 'Can You Feel It?', the PANSA Rainbow Young Performers' Project for 2013 that will be staged at the Elizabeth Sneddon theatre from June 29 to July 14. Book at Computicket. Photo: Val Adamson

rainbow performers ready to roll

THE Performing Arts Network of South Africa, KwaZulu-Natal (PANSA) has announced that the 13th annual Rainbow Young Performers' Project for 2013 will be the original production, 'Can You Feel It?'.

Written and directed by Peter Court and Charon Williams-Ros, it will be at the Elizabeth Sneddon Theatre from June 29 until July 14. Spearheaded by PANSA, the project offers actors a taste of working in the professional arena. They learn how a play develops from rehearsals to the construction of the sets. Most of all they realise that it all requires hard work.

Rehearsals began in May with the cast meeting every weekend until the opening night. The programme promotes discipline, develops

confidence, and gives an opportunity to make lifelong friendships, to learn a huge amount from the professionals and have a whole lot of fun at the same time.

'Can You Feel It?' is a departure from the traditional musical.

"Part of the publicity campaign is an element of secrecy but we can tell you that there is great singing, dancing and physical theatre, with a distinct 'Cirque du Soleil' feel.

The storyline, however, relates to South African life and some of the issues facing our youth," said Ms Williams-Ros. She said rehearsals were going well, with the performers responding to the 'colouring outside the lines' approach to theatre. Book for the show through Computicket.



fashion first for young designers

HIBISCUS Young Designers (HYD) is hosting a fashion show at Margate Hotels on Saturday, June 15 from 2pm to 6pm. "Our aim is to promote local talent in

terms of fine art and enhance the productivity of young and upcoming fashion artists," said Freedom Mbili, founder of HYD.

The show will also give platform

to other well known local artists such as Nqobile Cele aka Conquerer Designers and Hlonie.

Local artists and entertainers are welcome, but booking is essential.

Seats are limited, so get there early. Tickets will be sold for R30 at the door.

For more information contact Nkululeko at 073 5748133, visit the facebook page, Hibiscus Young Designers, or follow the event on Twitter.

Best seafood platter in town!

OPEN DAILY 11AM - 9PM

Marine Drive, Ramsgate, (opposite Whale Deck).
Tel: 039 314 4720 • 083 268 7621
info@crayfishinn.co.za • www.crayfishinn.co.za

Spoil Dad this Father's Day Buffet Lunch



Dad receives a FREE bottle of wine to take home, a complimentary cocktail PLUS entry onto the San Lamser estate.

R150pp

Entertainment is provided by Dion Williamson

For more information and bookings call 039 313 0011 or nlotriet@slmondazur.com

www.monddazur.com or find us on



HD103657

THE LOBSTER POT RESTAURANT

The Seafood Specialists

Your hosts Trevor and Jean serving you for 17 years
REOPENING TODAY 6 JUNE 2013
MARINE DR, RAMSGATE SOUTH 039 314 9809

Surf's up dude!

Affordable self-catering holiday accommodation

FUN holidays 086 188 8994
tunhols@venturenet.co.za
www.firstresorts.co.za

WINTER SPECIAL R824⁰⁰

PER SUITE PER NIGHT SLEEPS 6 PEOPLE

KAPENTA BAY RESORT AND CONFERENCE HOTEL

11/12 Princess Elizabeth Drive, Waterfront Promenade, Port Shepstone • Tel: 039 682 5528 for bookings