

SWELLENDAM BURSARY FUND NEWS



From left to right: Neville Sefoor, Wim Lubbersen, Riaan Jonas, Gabi Zahn & Basil May

The Swellendam Bursary Fund has quietly continued with its task of providing bursaries to deserving indigent students of Swellendam, Buffeljagsrivier, Suurbraak and Barrydale. On Monday it received a very welcome amount of R32 000 from Cape Classic.

The Cape Classic Charitable Culture, a German charitable fund, was founded under the leadership of Gabi and Eberhard Zahn. In 2013 it established a relationship with the Swellendam Bursary Fund and has donated a total of R134 000 to provide 33 bursaries over a period of five years. This is remarkable because Cape Classic suffered a setback when Eberhard passed away. Nevertheless, Gabi persevered with the task they had set themselves, despite severe challenges that she faced. Fortunately, her board supported her to the hilt.

Cape Classic raises funds by means of classical concerts, which were initially arranged in Germany and the Western Cape. Recently the Cape Classic board decided to have only two concerts in Germany because of the logistics involved. Notwithstanding, it still demands much effort because the events are held in a relatively small town with a limited number of patrons. Furthermore, good artists are expensive.

The amount that was given to the Bursary Fund on Monday would increase the total to R156 000 and enable the Fund to issue another eight bursaries of R4 000 each. There was so much appreciation for this gift, that one of the members declared:

“What a fabulous donation we received from Cape-Classic! ... This year they contributed an astonishing amount of R32.000 to the Bursary Fund and we can't tell you how happy we are!”

Wim and Nikki, the owners of Babettes, a highly rated local guest-house, kindly provided a venue for the function and bought a special cake to celebrate the occasion. The emblems of both organisations were displayed to reflect the bond between the Bursary Fund and Cape Classic. There was a congenial atmosphere and everybody seemed relaxed, while the conditions of the donation were discussed. The Bursary Fund will supply Cape Classic with a list of the study-related costs for which students would be allowed to use their bursaries and other information about the Bursary Fund.



The cake displaying the two emblems

Occasions like these contribute much to the spirit with which the Bursary Fund Board does its extremely demanding work, without any administrative support. In the present climate before the May elections with so much uncertainty and misunderstanding, it is difficult to remain positive at all times. Thank you, Cape Classic. Your donation came at an opportune time. May you go from strength to strength.