



Friendship Letter

IPA – WEST RAND REGION
THE CRADLE OF HUMANKIND



A Message to you - From IPA West Rand Committee

[message shared on IPA West Rand Facebook dated 2023-12-08]

As we are nearing the end of the year, it is our chance to spend some quality time with our friends and family! Christmas is extra special when you spend it with people you care about. Thank you for welcoming the IPA West Rand Region into your friendship circle these holidays and making us feel part of the family.

For the IPA West Rand Region, friends are your chosen family. It's a saying we often hear but know that it should really be reserved for our most trusted companions. Sure, all friendships are special, but when we think about those who have been there for us through our hardest times, the people we spend time with as part of a growing organization, and those who we speak to every day, the word friendship just doesn't do them justice. Simply say they are family!

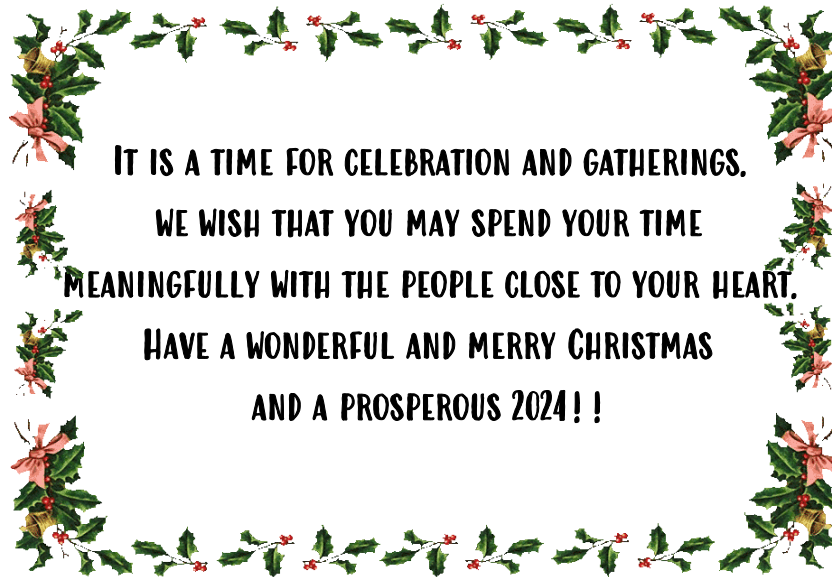
So, when you're celebrating them on their birthdays, praying for them during a difficult time, or looking to caption a meaningful photo of them. There's a marked difference between acquaintances and friends. They become deep and serious acquaintances. But in a friendship, you get to know the spirit of another person, and your values coincide.

It seems to us that trying to live without friends is like milking a bear to get cream for your morning coffee. It is a whole lot of trouble, and then not worth much after getting it!

You know, not everyone has been lucky enough to have a blood family they can depend on, so to find even one special person who can be a brother and or a sister, figure deserves all the recognition in the world.

We hope to see all the old faces and new faces at the events we are planning for next year as a growing organization, through its Esperanto motto of "Servo per Amikeco" or "Service through Friendship", the purpose of the IPA is to create a

bond of friendship and to promote co-operation amongst its members and other law enforcement agencies.



IPA West Rand Committee:

Chairperson, André de Bruin; Vice-Chairman, Jan Judeel; Treasurer, Kallie Calitz & Secretary, Natasha Calitz.

UPCOMING EVENTS

DATE	EVENT	ORGANISER OF EVENT & CONTACT DETAILS
ANNUAL YEAR PLAN FOR 2024 WILL BE RELEASED BY END OF JANUARY 2024		

Dates of events will be conveyed through Email and WhatsApp and may change.

Details surrounding events will be made available as arrangements are made.

Anyone interested in assisting with any of the events can contact anyone of the Committee members.

EVENTS

IPA WEST RAND ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING & SOCIAL GATHERING

On Saturday, **2023-09-09** IPA West Rand's Annual General Meeting was held at the "Oumanne" Club in Krugersdorp. We were privileged by having so many of our members and visitors present.

Before the official start of the AGM, Vice Chairman Jan Judeel was given the opportunity to present a visual slide show of the IPA West Rand's Strategic Year Plan of 2023 which we will present during the 2023 National Executive Council Meeting in Pretoria.

Members therefore had the opportunity to see what we did in 2022 and how we progressed into 2023, as Jan also had a short video presentation of what we did so far in 2023 and how busy we were. This last video clips were so special as he included some of very old photo's of some of us looking so much younger, also some of our dearly IPA friends that is no longer with us. We had a walk down memory lane, it gave us laughter and a few tears! Thank you for this special touch Jan!!



The Chairman presented 20- and 10 year membership certificates to members present:

20 year

Ockie Els

Christelle van Straaten



10 year

Mariaan Thomson

Herman van Rooyen

Hennie van Rensburg

Ockie Els



We were also privileged to have two of our local Mogale City Councillors in our midst, past Executive Mayor Tyron Grey and Coucillor Mark Trump. André presented each a new IPA SA Challenge Coin to celebrate the new freindship and partnership between them and the IPA as we discussed future endeavours together and how we can grow the IPA together in the West Rand.

(as we as Committee has already started with discussions on West Rand possibilly hosting the 2024 NEC meeting, these two guys' have contacts we definitely will use)



After the AGM we continued to have a lovely social braai and everyone enjoyed their eveing.





IPA WEST RAND HERITAGE BRAAI

On a very chilly, 25th of September 2023 IPA West Rand members, friends and family came together for a Heritage Day Braai at the small holding of Friends of the IPA, Louis and Charmaine Lottering in Randfontein.

The chill in the air was a disappointment as we all hoped for a sunny day, and we had a beautiful swimming pool for our use. The men were all ready to celebrate the new season to dive into the pool, but to our disappointment the cold weather, chilly winds (and a few strict wife's). prevented them from "cooling off". Need not to say, no one dared to get into the pool!

We had a very nice braai with the usual pap and sauce made by Louis and Jan with a few salads, rooster koek which we had as a starter with "skilpaadjies". Charmaine made some of her delicious homemade "boere brood" and homemade jams.

With our tummies full, we decided to leave the cold outdoors and move into the house for some pudding and coffee, closing the day relaxing with friends and family. Although a cold, unpleasant (weather) day, we still had a marvelous social day with our friends and family.





IPA SA NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COUNCIL CONGRES

2 – 5 NOVEMBER 2023

IPA West Rand Region was privileged to attend the 38th National Council Meeting from the 2nd till the 5th of November 2023. The event was hosted by IPA Johannesburg and held at the SAPS Elderly Care Fund facility in Erasmuskloof, Pretoria while the Schoongezicht Guest House provided the accommodation.

The first official meeting commenced at 15:00 on the day of arrival, which followed that evening with a social braai and gin tasting evening at the guest house.





The next day started early as the official congress was opened by the IPA SA President, Vossie Vos. A full day continued with discussions, topics, and regional presentations of what the different regions undertook in 2022.

West Rand Region was also privileged to be chosen as the host for the 2024, 39th NEC.

Later in the evening, while the sun was setting, the official congress photograph was taken which then was followed by a lovely gala dinner with delicious food and live music.



During the gala dinner regions received awards for the work they have done throughout the year. Region of the Year was again awarded to Johannesburg IPA, while West Rand was awarded 3rd place. **For us, as a committee, it is a huge success, seeing that we seriously started to build IPA West Rand Region in 2022 to where we are today. West Rand won a place on the podium last in 2011 with a 2nd place.**



Our secretary, Natasha Calitz, was privileged, and honoured, to receive the **President's Award for Excellence**, for her absolute diligence, commitment, and dedication towards the cause of the IPA, especially, West Rand Region.



The Saturday we all took part in an IPA Potjiekos competition at the Johann Rissik IPA Guesthouse. Johannesburg, Mpumalanga and West Rand had their gazebos and marketing displays up, giving it the IPA feeling.





And what a surprise it was when we did not compete in our regions. Each person drew a number from a bag and was teamed up with others with the same numbers. This was a lot of fun and we had a delightful day. We also had to answer some questions to win our ingredients, luckily Natasha answered the first question correctly for **Team 5** and chose beef as the meat option for the potjie.

This idea of Johannesburg will definitely be carried over to next year's NEC activities as it provided a new social engagement between regions.

Our hosts, IPA Johannesburg supplied all ingredients for the pots, we just had to add our love and maybe an extra secret spice or two!! Luckily for Team 5, Jan is always prepared with his fully stocked trailer and spice boxes, and he had a secret sauce ready for the competition!



At the end of the day, after judging took place, the winners were announced. **Team 5**, consisting of Jan Judeel and Natasha Calitz (West Rand Region), Barries and Hannetjie Bardenhorst (Port Natal Region), Yvonne Prinsloo (Jacaranda Region) and Gerrie Snyman (Kannaland IPA).

Although we were awarded the 1st prize, everyone was a winner by the end of the day and a final touch for the day was that everyone who participated received an IPA 1st place trophy! Thank you Joburg for this unified recognition! We are all winners at the end of the day!



After the “official” festivities was concluded, everyone then enjoyed themselves at the bar. It was really an amazing day, socializing with old, and new friends.

On Sunday morning, after a delicious breakfast everyone departed back to their own regions!

Until next Year! **IN THE WEST RAND!!!**

IPA WEST RAND DATE NIGHT AT HUSSAR GRILL @ SILVERSTAR CASINO

On Tuesday evening, the **21st of November 2023** IPA West Rand again gathered at the Hussar Grill @ Silverstar Casino, Krugersdorp, for our annual date night.

We were privileged to have 28 IPA members, family, and friends at the event, including our National President Vossie Vos, his wife Dirkie and their children present.

As usual, the food was delicious and the company wonderful! Being so many of our IPA family present, shows the true spirit of friendship between us.

Our Vice-Chairman Jan Judeel, added the following to our Facebook post of the evening:

“What is Friendship?

A friend is often someone that you experience a bond with. You may experience some common beliefs and values with friends, and often, a friend is someone you trust and enjoy being around. With close friends, you may feel more deeply connected and know you can rely on them for support. This friendship may seem very reliable, and this friend may make it easy to pick up where you left off.”

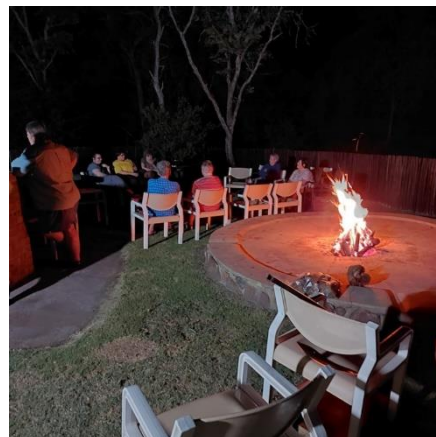
Indeed, what our IPA family is made off! - Friendship and Respect!!



IPA WEST RAND ANNUAL WEESGERUS WEEKEND

On Friday, the **1st of December 2023** IPA West Rand members, families and friends arrived on their own time at Weesgerus and booked into the dam lapa guest house and chalets.

Friday evening was a relaxing social with a braai and our own MasterChef, Louis preparing his usual trusted, pap and gravy. Everyone gathered around the boma fire and enjoyed the evening bushveld weather and sounds coming from the bush and catching up with what is going on in our lives since we last saw each other!



Saturday was the usual relaxing around the pool and some ventured into town for some last-minute shopping before the much anticipated **“Gin Tasting”** presented by our Vice Chairman Jan. Delicious snacks were also on the table and with the arrangements of gins, it turned out to be a very good activity for the late afternoon and helping to get everyone in a good spirit during the preparation of the evening spit braai.



With the assistance of a local resident (referred to us by Weesgerus), Christo Lourens, we had the use of a beautiful, clean spit braai for the spit of the pork and vegetables for the evening. Christo went out of his way to assist us in preparing the meat for the spit and ensured that the meat was tender and perfectly marinated. (We will use him again in the future!).

Louis also introduced his “Chicken Box” where 4 large chickens were placed in a box and perfectly cooked as alternative meat dish for the evening.

By 19:00 the food was ready and a table, fit for kings, were presented to us. Pork, chicken, vegetables, and salads! What more do you need in this beautiful bushveld atmosphere?



On Sunday, a few members packed up and left for home (or lucky Anton, Elsje & Carla continued with holiday to Dikhololo!) The remainder of members stayed behind and enjoyed a late brunch, with all the leftovers of Saturday night, which also helped with snacking throughout the day as everyone were coming and going from the pool, on their own relaxing time!

During the hottest time of the Sunday afternoon, a short nap for some and a few cold ones for the other, but all relaxed and enjoyed a very quiet bushveld Sunday.

On Monday, the 4th of December the last remaining members departed for their homes.

Jet again, a very successful and enjoyable 2023 Weesgerus weekend. A privilege to have our own members and families, as well as our own IPA SA President, Vossie and Dirkie present!

Until next year Weesgerus!



CHARITY PROJECTS



SENIORS SHOEBOX PROJECT

The WAS Foundation in Krugersdorp West's mission is to create safe places for families and children where no one goes to bed hungry or cold and are treated with love and care and provide basic resources to those who go without life's essentials.

They also protect the innocent children from harm and teach them necessary life skills realise a better life as they grow up.

This foundation is also feeding up to **320 children**, every day, Monday to Fridays – 3 meals a day! All from a normal suburban house in Krugersdorp West, in a small kitchen on a six-burner gas stove.



They also launched a Seniors Shoebox Project where they asked the community to sponsor an elderly person and fill a shoe box with necessities and treats. They provided a list of basic- and treat items which must be placed in the shoe box.

IPA West Rand immediately contacted them to take part in this worthy cause. Ten (10) names and ages of seniors, identified by WAS, were supplied to us.

Again, IPA West Rand members did not disappoint and immediately took on the task.

On the 18TH of November 2023 we handed over the 10, beautiful, wrapped shoeboxes, to the WAS Foundation.



Thank you again to our members who took part in this project:

- Appel Ernst
- Tommie & Mariaan Thomson
- Kallie & Natasha Calitz
- Claude Malan (IPA Joburg)
- André & Susan de Bruin
- Nico & Zelda van Niekerk

Handing over of presents to elderly – 3rd December 2023



SCHOOL BAG PROJECT

During October 2023 we launched our **School bag Project** where we asked our members to take part and fill 10 school bags with school stationary.

These school bags will then be handed over to 10 children (ages 5 – 9 years) of police members who is battling financially. SAPS EHW Social Workers from Krugersdorp (Captain Annelise Quinn) en Roodepoort (Captain Esta Pelzer) have identified 10 children who will receive these school bags.

As this is a very sensitive matter for these families, on **11th of December 2023** we presented the bags to Captain Esta Pelzer of Roodepoort SAPS EHW who will then hand it over, in private, to these children.

We also used this opportunity to salute the work and service EHW provide to our police members and their families, and we acknowledge the value they provide towards the well being of members and the assistance they provide to these members. We undertook to form a partnership with these EHW officials and hope to make a difference in someone life!

I'm so proud of our IPA members who immediately came on board and supplied us with beautiful, filled bags for these children and wish to thank them for their assistance:

Linda Dekker
Tommie & Mariaan Thomson
Henk & Natasja Watermeyer
Anton, Elsje & Carla Roos



Jan & Martie Judeel
André en Susan du Bruin
Kallie en Natasha Calitz



NEWS

The following contains information regarding the IPA (SA) marketing video which is currently in the making. We hope that all IPA West Rand members will take part in this initiative and help us to feature the West Rand in the video.

IPA (SA) National President, Vossie Vos circular dated 9th November 2023 – IPA(SA) MARKETING VIDEO

Good day all

My WA with regards to the development of an IPA(SA) marketing video has reference - as attached the Letter

It is my honest opinion that such a video will be adding a lot of value and can then be used by all and also be distributed as you all may deem appropriate.

My understanding is that it will max approximately 7 minutes - it has been stated that anything longer could lose the attention of the viewer.

It is critical that in that regard we cover the base as requested regarding.

- **Our Country** - photos of scenery will be essential. Photos of the countryside, sunset, sunrise, animals such as the big 5 and also our national emblems, etc
- **Policing activities** - Think we all have the ability to provide good photos of policing officials at work as well as other policing aspects as stated in the letter. It is critical to cover all policing agencies apart of the SAPS - metro and traffic police, SANPARKS, SARS Customs, Correctional Services, Military Police, etc. We need to include them to show the cohesion and collectiveness.

- **IPA activities** - critical to focus on the various activities such as social, socio welfare support, sport, seminars, etc. This is key to showcase what we are about and what is offered to members.
- **IPA Houses** - good photos of our 3 IPA houses.

Slogans

Throughout the video the intention is to include a few slogans as marketing attraction - what we are about and what we offer members.

- It will be appreciated if all can provide some slogans we can use in the video - short, but to the point

Music

The intention is to include background music

- Your suggestions with regards to music or songs that we can include.
- Preference to be given to South African music.
- Please provide suggestions.

The video is to be developed that it can stand the test over time as it cannot be changed every year.

Keenly looking forward to your support and inputs for this initiative

IPA WEST RAND MEMBERS TO SUBMIT THEIR INPUTS ETC BEFORE 15TH JANUARY 2024 TO THE EDITOR ON calitztasha@gmail.com

IPA SA CHALLENGE COIN



Orders to be placed with Natasha on IPA WR WhatsApp group and R150 paid into IPA WR account to confirm order. (Coin will only be ordered if payment is received)

CUP OF FRIENDSHIP

The “Cup of Friendship” project will be ongoing, steered by our Vice-Chairman, Jan Judeel. Any member who wishes to be part of this project can contact Jan directly. All you must do is keep a few cups in your car and every time you see a policeman or a traffic official, hand him/her a cup.

Each cup contains sachets of coffee, sugar, Cremora, a packet of cookies and something sweet.



All you must add is hot water and enjoy!

Attached to the cup is an information leaflet what the IPA is about and an application- and debit form. Each of the Committee members will have friendship cups in their possession to randomly hand out to policemen, traffic officials and other members who qualify to be an IPA member [ex. National & Provincial Parks Board Law Enforcement officials].



[due to quarterly issue of this friendship letter, birthdays for 3 upcoming months is included]

DECEMBER		JANUARY		FEBRUARY	
1	A PRINSLOO	1	M VAN NIEKERK	8	Y SABELA
4	N CALITZ	8	JJ CALITZ	12	JL BOOYSEN
7	PPJ COMBRINCK	14	CD DAVIS	19	PA POTGIETER
8	D VAN STADEN	16	R BRINK		
13	S SWARTS	17	R SCHOOMBIE		
14	C VAN STRAATEN	17	CD REYNEKE		
24	MC RAUTENBACH	27	S KORIE		
27	AR THOMSON	28	M JACOBS		
29	A LAMPRECHT	30	DJ VAN SCHALKWYK		
29	ST ROHLOFF				

Congratulations to all members with their upcoming birthdays! We hope to see each one of you at our social events so that we can personally congratulate you on this joyful day!

Friends as special as our IPA friends deserve to be celebrated on their birthday (all other days too!)

We hope that the year ahead brings each one of you many wonderful adventures!

Members whose names and date of birth do not appear in their birth month, please contact me to include you on my list!

WELFARE

Please report any welfare related issues to any committee member, example – hospitalisation, sickness, death of members and friends as well as extra-ordinary achievements by our members or their children.

NEW!



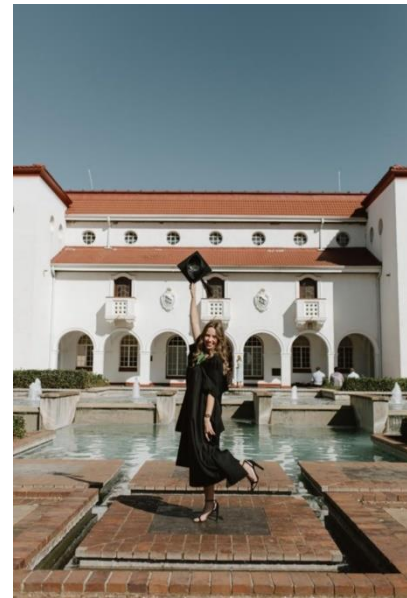
Here we will discuss extra ordinary achievements of our members and their families. All IPA members are invited to send me information and photos of themselves or their family members who has achieved something they are proud of and want to share with us.

Details can be submitted to me on calitztasha@gmail.com to be placed in future editions.

In this last edition of 2023, I am very privileged, and honoured to introduce to you a very remarkable young woman.

She grew up in front of us, both parents and grandparents were (father, Nico still serving) SAPS members and well known in the West Rand SAPS family. She also has remarkable parents and seen what she has achieved at such a young age, was raised with impeccable morals, standards, and ethics.

I introduce to the IPA family, 23-year-old **MISCHA VAN NIEKERK** – Daughter of IPA member Nico & Zelda van Niekerk



In 2021, Mischa obtained a degree in **BSC Microbiology and Animal Sciences** and in 2022 continued with her studies and was awarded her **Bsc Honours Degree in Environmental Science**.

She is currently busy with her **Honors Degree in Environmental Sciences with Integrated Pest Management**.

In October 2023 Mischa was selected by the Northwest University to attend the European Conference of Entomology in Crete, Greece. A major honour itself!

After the conference, she visited the Mediterranean University of Heraklion and work with fellow scientist in her field to gain experience and knowledge to bring back to SA.



With these achievements, one can see the passion and commitment Mischa has for reaching much higher goals in her field.

By this, we are not just celebrating this remarkable young woman, but also her parents, IPA member, Nico & Zelda van Niekerk. Congratulations in the beautiful woman you raised and how you prepared her for her life to come.

We, as IPA West Rand support Mischa in her future achievements and endeavours to come and wish her all the success she deserves!!

Well done Mischa!!

News Makers

CAPTAIN PAULA TERBLANCHE

We are so proud to have one of our IPA West Rand members, Captain Paula Terblanche featured in a magazine, “GET IT Joburg West” not just a beautiful article but on the front/cover page as well! The article can be found through the link <https://bit.ly/48AgCWI>.

Paula is a well-known and respected officer in the SAPS and have been stationed at the West Rand FCS Unit for over 30 years. Reading the article, her passion for her work, family and sport is so eminent and the accolade’s she received in the past years shows her commitment and passion for that what she is doing.

Congratulations Paula! You make us proud to call you our friend and an IPA West Rand member!



HOBBY CORNER

In last year's Friendship Letter, we included this column and ask our IPA members to tell us about their hobbies.

What hobby do you practice? i.e – where is your “happy place”?

Are you selling the items you make etc.?
Send us photos to include in this article!



POETRY POCKET

For this last issue of 2023 I want to share a poem that was posted on social media. This poem was written by a 14-year-old boy, **Joshua Dyer** who had to write a poem for Remembrance Day.

Every November month we celebrate the end of WW1 and, we remember all fallen soldiers and those who have not returned from service.

Now, we remember ALL fallen heroes, not just in war but now, in our everyday lives. Our colleagues that do not return after their shift has ended.

The heroes who made the highest sacrifice, their lives.

The red poppy is a symbol of both Remembrance and hope for a peaceful future. Poppies are worn as a show of support for the Armed Forces community.

The poppy is a well-known and well-established symbol, one that carries a wealth of history and meaning with it.

Wearing a poppy is still a very personal choice, reflecting individual experiences and personal memories.



ONE THOUSAND MEN ARE WALKING

One thousand men are walking,
walking side by side.
Singing songs from home
the spirit as their guide.

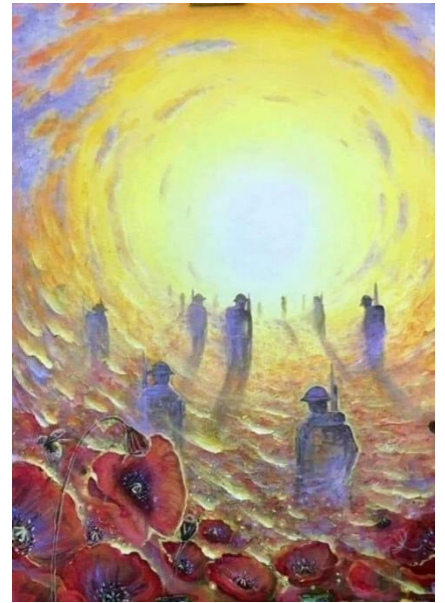
They walk toward the light milord,
they walk towards the sun.
They smoke and laugh and smile together,
no foes to outrun.

These men live on forever,
in the hearts of those they saved.
A nation truly grateful,
for the path of peace they paved.

They marched as friends and comrades,
but they do not march for war.
Step closer to salvation
a tranquil steady corp.

The meadows lit with golden beams,
a beacon for the brave.
The emerald grass untrampled
A reward for what they gave.

The dream of those they left behind,
and know they dream of them,
forever in those poppy fields,
there walks one thousand men.



CLOSING REMARKS

I am closing this year with a few beautiful words that I saved throughout the year and what kept me going through every event and project. To stand up and carry on! Especially on the days when I think why am I doing all this, for whom am I doing all this?

I sincerely hope that I made a difference in someone's live or just allowing someone to receive love and happiness.

When I was awarded the *President's Award for Excellence* during the 2023 National Council Meeting in Pretoria, I at least now know that I made a difference in the IPA family. My hard work has paid off, but, the work that we do is not for any accolades or awards – although I am very, very

honoured and proud for this recognition!! – it is all about what changes you make in the lives of others.

I pray that everyone in our IPA family, and friends, can say that they made a difference, they gave hope to someone or that they were there for someone who needed compassion and a moment of happiness.

What friend have you been this year?



If you were born with the ability to change someone's life, don't waste it!

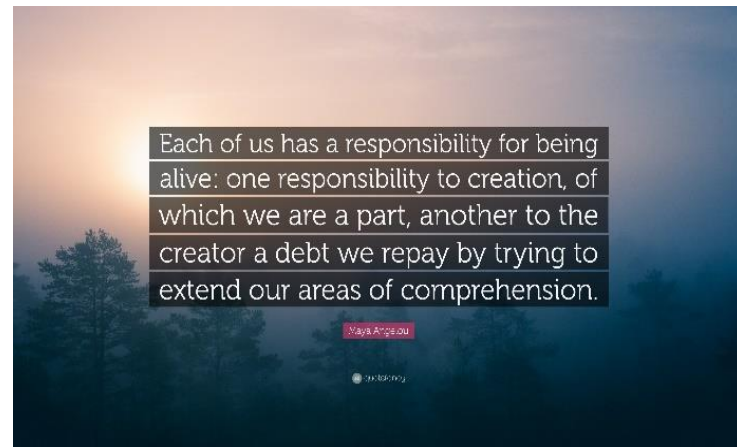


Nothing is more important than empathy for another human being's suffering.

Nothing.

Not a career, not wealth, not intelligence, certainly not status.

We have to feel for one another if we're going to survive with dignity!



NATASHA CALITZ

EDITOR



As an IPA member, you can also take part in numerous IPA programs, activities, and projects. Use this link, search and explore your IPA benefits!

<https://ipasafrika.co.za/main/membership/member-benefits/>

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