

GREAT READING

Your guide to Highveld books and authors

Miss Kwa Kwa

Author: Stephen Simm - Publisher: Jacana

Palesa Moshesh is a *platteland* youngster with ambitions to make it big, à la Benoni actress Charlize Theron. After winning a local beauty pageant, she becomes Miss Kwa Kwa and uses every opportunity she can to get out of her small town and on the road to the city of gold. This includes badgering the unsuspecting, beer-bellied Pieter Dippenaar. It's a witty book and the characters will have you in giggles, especially Miss Kwa Kwa's not-so-pageant-like antics and her entertaining advice on superstardom.

African Journeys

Author: Don Pinnock - Publisher: Double Storey

Take a dip into this enjoyable collection of stories by one of South Africa's most experienced travel writers. Don Pinnock journeys through some intriguing and colourful locations in Ethiopia, Zanzibar and Namibia, discovering fascinating locals and secret havens that will appeal to daring backpackers and armchair travellers alike. The book has an excellent local chapter, Secret South Africa, which includes Pinnock's visit to the Highveld and his stay in cool, misty Dullstroom.

Mpumalanga: History & Heritage

Publisher: University of Kwazulu-Natal Press

Editor/ author: Peter Delius

This ground-breaking study on Mpumalanga's rich natural and human history features a unique collaboration between the Mpumalanga government, the National Heritage Council and a team of South African academics, headed by professor of history at Wits University, Professor Peter Delius.

The book moves from the province's earliest origins to conflicts between indigenous communities and white settlers. It examines the development of natural resource management and concludes with a comprehensive appraisal of the economic heritage, land struggles and political resistance in the 20th century. The comprehensive text is complemented by historical and contemporary photographs.

It's an invaluable book for educators and related professionals, history buffs and anyone with an interest in the region.

