



MEDIA RELEASE

August 2017

MELROSE ARCH HOSTS TWO FUN FAMILY EVENTS FOR CHARITY

WALKING ON SUNSHINE SPRING WALK

DATE: Sunday, 3 September, 2017

TIME: 8am



Melrose Arch, Johannesburg's premier lifestyle destination, is pleased to once again be hosting two fun family events for charity – the Walking On Sunshine Spring Walk on Sunday, 3 September, and the Melrose Arch Cyclethon on Saturday, 16 September. All proceeds from both events will go to HospiceWits and the Smile Foundation.

It's spring, and what better way to celebrate than by walking on sunshine? The Walking On Sunshine Spring Walk, supported by Classic FM, is an easy 5km walk starting on Melrose Boulevard, meandering through the leafy suburb of Melrose and James and Ethel Gray Park, and ending at Melrose Arch's Piazza. Walk at your own pace and enjoy the entertainment along the way, then once you've finished, sit back and have some breakfast at one of Melrose Arch's fine restaurants, while the children have fun at the kids' activities on the Piazza.

Entries cost R100 per adult, R60 per child under 12 and children under 2 are free. To enter, visit www.melrosearch.co.za. Walk numbers should be collected on Saturday, 2 September from 09h00 to 14h00 on the Square. Walkers can also enter on the day, between 06h00 and 08h00.

"Spring is nature's way of saying, 'Put a bounce in your step and smile!' And what better way to step into spring than by taking part in the Walking on Sunshine Spring Walk? Our sincere thanks go to Melrose Arch for once again supporting our work of caring for those who need it most," says Jacqui Kaye, CEO of HospiceWits.

HospiceWits maintains an in-patient unit in Houghton which provides high-quality care, comfort and support to patients and families affected by life-threatening illnesses. Kaye explains, "Not only do we provide care to meet the physical needs of our patients, we go beyond that to ensure that their emotional, spiritual and psychosocial needs are met through our multidisciplinary team."

HospiceWits provides the same holistic care for the 85 HIV/Aids-affected and -infected orphans and vulnerable children of patients at their Mapetla Day Care Centre in Soweto.

For more information on the Walking on Sunshine Spring Walk, please contact Godwill Maseko at HospiceWits on (011) 483-9131, or email godwill@hospicewits.co.za

* Walking on Sunshine participants and their families will also be able to enjoy the Mpumalanga Traditional Art Market at Melrose Arch after their walk. Beading, pottery, wood carvings, wired art, stitching, tapestry and embroidery are among the beautiful works that will be at the market on 2-3 September, as well as paintings, fabrics and pots decorated with the bright geometric designs inherent in traditional Ndebele art. In addition, there will be an exciting programme of entertainment, with live traditional music, poetry readings, cultural dance performances and jazz by Peter Jasper and the Quartet. The Mpumalanga Traditional Art Market will be held in The Tent (behind the Square).

MELROSE ARCH CYCLETHON

DATE: Saturday, 16 September, 2017

TIME: 7am – 1pm

Continuing the theme of getting fit for charity in September, Melrose Arch's Piazza will see celebrities and ordinary citizens getting in the saddle for the Melrose Arch Cyclethon, supported by Hot 91.9FM, to raise funds for HospiceWits and the Smile Foundation.

There are 140 bikes available per session, with professional instructors leading each session. Sessions will run for 50 minutes with a 10-minute break in between to facilitate the changeover of bikes. The public is welcome to participate in as many sessions as they wish.

Various celebrities will join the cyclists or stand on the sidelines, showing their encouragement. There will also be live entertainment, fabulous spot prizes and a secure play area for children.

"Supporting charity is important to Melrose Arch, and we are proud to host this event once again to raise funds for HospiceWits and the Smile Foundation," says Mike Vermaak, MD of Melrose Arch. "It's a fun day for the whole family. My team and I shall be cycling, and I encourage members of the community, corporates and schools to come and join us in supporting this worthy cause."

"This is the sixth year the Melrose Arch Cyclethon is taking place and each year, it just goes from strength to strength. It's a great way to celebrate the beginning of spring and to get healthy but, even better, it's a fantastic way to make a difference in children's lives," says Hedley Lewis, CEO of the Smile Foundation.

The Smile Foundation is a South African NGO that assists children with anomalies that require facial reconstructive surgery. Based in seven academic hospitals in South Africa, the Smile Foundation invests in the teams they work with, through a skills development programme, and they assist the hospitals by purchasing equipment for use by the Department of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery.

Enter for the Cyclethon online at www.ticketpros.co.za or get to Melrose Arch's Piazza half an hour before each session on the day to register. Entries cost R160 per bike per hour, and the Cyclethon runs from 7am to 1pm, with each session starting on the hour. Each entrant will receive a goodie bag worth R300.

For more information, please contact the Melrose Arch Marketing Department on (011) 684-0002 or visit www.melrosearch.co.za.

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