

# Festival huge success

**T**HE McGregor Food & Wine Festival held on Saturday (August 27) was a resounding success with visitors from all over the Western Cape flocking in to enjoy the festivities!

Wineries were happy with their sales and the food stalls sold all their tasty treats. Restaurants were full and a travelling theatre group from the McGregor Waldorf School entertained diners in the local restaurants on Saturday evening.

The cabaret show on Friday and Saturday was booked out.

The festival kicked off with Awie Page's Brass Band in a procession through the village (the Methodist Church celebrated its 150th anniversary as well) with music from a local steel band and the marimba band from McGregor.

Both adults and children had a wonderful time, being entertained by McGregor locals Lauren and David of Shamanzi.

McGregor is recognised to be unique in the Western Cape, because of its excellent state of preservation, its setting and its distinctive environmental charac-



Painted faces were all the rage at the festival.

Photo: Supplied

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More recently, the Cultural Heritage Study of the Breede River Winelands Municipality, undertaken by the Strategic Environmental Forum stated: "To this day, McGregor remains the best example of a Cape vernacular village, housing a wide variety of vernacular building types.

"Sixty-five historical homesteads and other structures have been identified in this survey."

Similarly, Hans Franssen and Mary Cook, in their book on old buildings of the Cape, described the town as "the best preserved and most complete example of mid-nineteenth century townscape in the Western Cape".