



# Wiele rol magies vol



Einde Januarie 2025 was 'n gelukkige maand vir Laerskool Vastrap se Broodjieprojek en Laerskool Rustenburg se Happeklub toe elk 'n welkome skenking van R5 000 van Rustenburg se Golden Oldies Veteraanmotorklub ontvang het. Dié skenking, wat nou al 'n jaarlikse instelling geword het, spruit uit die Golden Oldies (Veteraanmotorklub) se motorskou wat vroeër by Laerskool Rustenburg en verlede jaar by Brauhaus Afrika aangebied is en waarheen Rustenburgers en besoekers van die Rand in groot getalle gestroom het. Die skenkings volg nadat die twee skole se uiters verdienstelike voedingsprojekte onder die aandag van die Golden Oldies gebring is. Op die foto's hierbo en hiernaas tydens die oorhandiging van die skenkings is mnrre Kallie Strydom (Rustenburg Golden Oldies), Jean-Jacques van Schalkwyk (voorsitter Rustenburg Golden Oldies) en Gerrie Oberholzer (hoof van Laerskool Rustenburg). Op die tweede foto weer eens mnrre Kallie Strydom (Rustenburg Golden Oldies), Jean-Jacques van Schalkwyk (voorsitter Rustenburg Golden Oldies) en Lambert Jankowitz (hoof van Laerskool Vastrap).

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# Building effective and motivated teams

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Building an outstanding team begins with strong leadership and fostering a supportive environment. Here are some principles to keep in mind as you bring your team together for a transformative experience during a team building workshop, or anything similar.

1. Effective leadership is built on loyalty and trust - not fear or authority. Foster loyalty by creating genuine relationships with team members and showing them that their contributions are valued.

2. Embrace every idea as innovation begins with open-mindedness. Encourage your team to share their ideas without fear of judgement - there's no such thing as a bad idea in brainstorming.

3. Stay attuned to unspoken feelings as great leaders are empathetic. Be sensitive to the moods and feelings of your team, setting an example of openness and understanding.

4. Be mindful to mediate disputes as these can disrupt progress - so act as a harmonising influence by resolving conflicts quickly and reminding the team of its collective goals.

5. Communicate clearly and consistently because more often than not, confusion stifles productivity. Lead by example, ensuring your directives are clear and concise while encouraging open communication within the team.

6. Promote cooperation and trust between members of the team as the relationships within the team are just as crucial as those between the team and its leader. Build trust and respect among members to create a cohesive, high-performing group.

7. Delegate and empower problem solving in order for your team to work together on solutions. Creative collaboration builds confidence and strengthens bonds.

8. Encourage brainstorming and debate, because creativity is stimulated by healthy debating, which can lead to innovative ideas and solutions. Consensus doesn't mean silencing disagreement.

9. Set ground rules and goals that create efficiency and success - whether it's punctuality for meetings or encouraging everyone to share ideas. Set clear goals and regularly evaluate progress to maintain momentum.

10. Acknowledging achievements and successes motivates teams and fosters a sense of pride and unity. Use milestones as opportunities to celebrate both individual and group accomplishments.



Building a strong, reliable team begins with effective leadership. Photo: kronosexperience.com

## Please assist Rustenburg SPCA with fuel to keep wheels rolling

**BONUS - RUSTENBURG - During the month of January 2025 inspectors of the Rustenburg SPCA had to travel no less than 7 000 km to attend to emergencies, complaints of animal cruelty, stray or unwanted animals and trips to veterinarians.**

Without a doubt, these services rendered have placed a heavy burden on the SPCA's finances and the team is struggling to keep their heads above water to be able to continue its services to the community. Fuel for vehicles is a problem in particular. The SPCA calls on the Rustenburg community to consider a contribution to keep the team's vehicles on the road and running. Donations will be highly appreciated and can be made as follows:

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## Thobego Mogaki - gospel singer and Minister

**BONUS - RUSTENBURG - Thobego Mogaki is a passionate and anointed gospel singer, songwriter and minister, dedicated to spreading the message of hope and redemption through music.**



Thobego Mogaki.

Born on May 9, 1989, in Mabasakraal, Makweleng Section, Thobego grew up in a Christian family, surrounded by the rich sounds of gospel music. From a young age, he felt the call to minister through music and has been faithfully serving the Lord ever since.

With a unique voice and style that blends traditional and contemporary gospel sounds, Thobego has made a significant impact in the gospel music scene. His solo album, featuring the title track "Dillo tsa mathomola pelo," showcases his talent and dedication to his craft.

Thobego is nominated for the Royal Gospel Music Awards (ROYGMA) in the following categories: Best Upcoming Artist (ROYGMA 041) and Best Song of the Year (ROYGMA 002).

The awards ceremony will take place on 1 August and voting lines open on 1 March. To vote, SMS "ROYGMA 002" and "ROYGMA 041" to 40439 (SMS cost R2, or use '0' free SMS).

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
 RUSTENBURG LOCAL MUNICIPALITY:  
 Notice is hereby given in terms of section 6 (4) (5) (a)(b) of Rustenburg Local Municipality Outdoor Advertising By-Law gazette number 8016 that was gazetted on the 11 June 2019, that TURNMEDIA (PTY) LTD for the following advertising signs: 1. Static Billboards 3mx4m at the following locations: 3 x Helen Joseph Dr. between Loerie and Arend Rd, Loerie Rd, Augrabies Ave, Helen Joseph between Kiepersol & Arend Rd, Kloof St between Abbey & Heystek St, 2x Armani Drive, C/o Nelson Mandela & Bosch St, Kock St, Swaruggens Road.

Attention is specifically drawn to the fact that in terms of section 6 (6) of the by-law that any person proposing to submit comments or representation or lodge an objection as contemplated must address such comments, representations, or objections to both the municipality and the applicant concerned. Comments must be submitted to Rustenburg Local Municipality within the period of 21 days from the date of Advertisement.

The following individuals are to be contacted.  
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 014 590 3435/3527/3394 Email: [ikatane@rustenburg.gov.za](mailto:ikatane@rustenburg.gov.za) / [oditshwene@rustenburg.gov.za](mailto:oditshwene@rustenburg.gov.za)

**KENNISGEWING**  
 RUSTENBURG PLAASLIKE MUNISIPALITEIT:  
 Kennisgewing hiermee in terme van par 6 (4) (5) (a)(b) van die Rustenburg Plaaslike Munisipaliteit se Buitelugadvertensie Verordeninge, gazette 8016 van 11 Junie 2019, dat TURNMEDIA (PTY) LTD aansoek doen om die volgende advertensies te installeer. 1. Sleepwa advertensie in die volgende areas: 1. Advertensieborde 3mx4m by die volgende areas: 2 x Helen Joseph Dr. tussen Loerie en Arend Rd, Loerie Rd, Augrabies Ave, Helen Joseph tussen Kiepersol en Arend Rd, Kloofstraat tussen Abbey en Heystek Str, 2 x Armani Drive, hoek van Nelson Mandela & Boschstraat, Kockstraat, Swaruggens Pad.

Aandag word spesifiek gevestig op die feit dat in terme van kousule 6 (6) van die Verordeninge, enige persoon wat beoog om kommentaar te lewer, 'n voorlegging te maak of om beswaar aan te teken, moet sodanige kommentaar/beswaar aan beide die Munisipaliteit en die betrokke aansoeker voorle. Kommentaar moet binne 'n tydperk van 21 dae vanaf datum van die advertensie, aan die Rustenburg Plaaslike Munisipaliteit voorle.

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# North West Housing Corporation delegation visits Midvaal Water



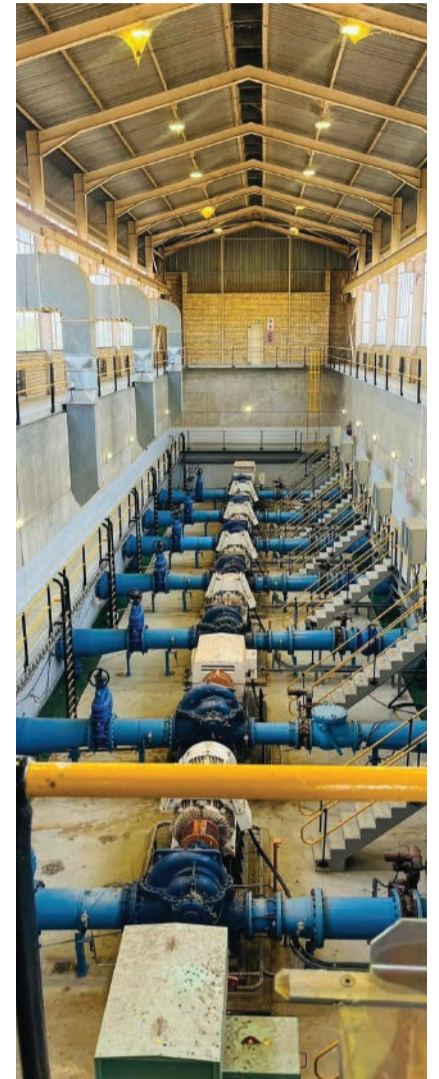
A delegation from the North West Housing Corporation (NWHC) recently visited the facilities of Midvaal Water Company.

**BONUS - RUSTENBURG** - A delegation from the North West Housing Corporation (NWHC) recently visited the facilities of Midvaal Water Company.

Led by its Chief Executive Officer, Bishop Sello Mogodiri, the delegation, including developers, was taken on an on-site tour of the water treatment facilities for a first-hand experience of the Midvaal Water's capacity and capabilities.

The visit comes on the heels of the historic visit of the Premier of the North West province, Mr Lazarus Kagiso Mokgosi, some two weeks ago. The tour also takes place against the backdrop of the cooperation agreement that the North West Housing Corporation and Midvaal Water entered into almost a year ago. Commenting on his impression of the facilities, Bishop Mogodiri could not contain

his excitement whilst expressing his satisfaction with the state of readiness of Midvaal Water to contribute to efforts to provide water on a sustainable basis to NWHC-planned mega and smart cities. Midvaal Water Company and North West Housing Corporation are cementing their relationship in pursuance of sustainable development through building a pipeline and other facilities to supply water to all mega and smart cities, the benefits of which will filter beyond the boundaries of the planned mega and smart cities.



## Vehicle theft syndicate in Tlhabane exposed

**BONUS - THLABANE** - The Acting Provincial Commissioner of North West, Major General Patrick Asaneng, has lauded a multidisciplinary task team for working tirelessly to unearth a motor vehicle theft syndicate that has been operating mainly in Tlhabane and the surrounding areas.

The syndicate, among others, stole a police officer's private car in Tlhabane on Sunday, 15 December 2024. Subsequent to an investigation by the team comprising the Provincial Investigation Unit, Rustenburg Vehicle Crime Investigation Unit, (VCIU) Crime Intelligence, Tactical Response Team (TRT) and Public Order Police (POP), two of the syndicate members were arrested on Thursday, 30 January, in Tlhabane West.

Further probing into the matter revealed that the group operates in the provinces of North West and Mpumalanga and sells stolen cars to clients in Mozambique and South Africa for prices ranging

from R20 000 to R35 000. The team also discovered that the syndicate consists of a former employee of a tracking company, a signal jammer operator, remote controlled gates specialist and a police officer.

Investigations and efforts to arrest more suspects and recover stolen vehicles are underway.

The suspects are expected to appear in the Rustenburg Magistrates' Court on Monday, 3 February. Major General Asaneng thanked the team members for the enthusiasm they displayed to ascertain that those who unlawfully dispossess the citizens of their property are dealt with effectively.

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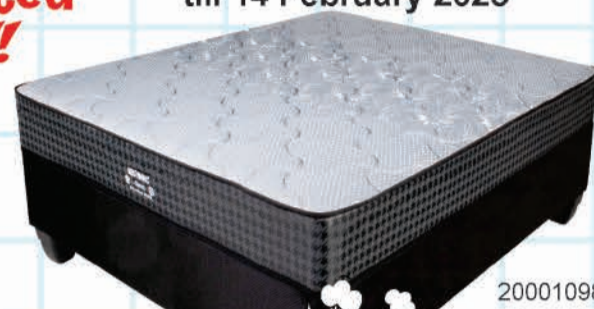
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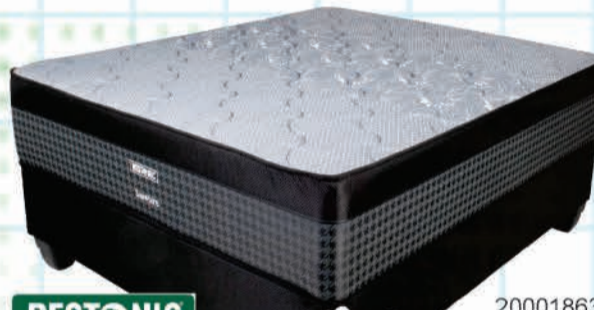
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# Robber sentenced to five years imprisonment

**BONUS - THLABANE - The Bafokeng Magistrates' Court in Tlhabane sentenced 25-year-old Bereng Lesuoia on Monday, 27 January, to five years direct imprisonment for robbery.**

The convict, who is Lesotho foreign national, was further declared unfit to possess a firearm in terms of Section 103 of the Firearms Control Act, 2000 (Act No. 60 of 2000). It was revealed in court that the accused threatened four males and robbed them of their cash and two cell phones in the early hours of Saturday morning, 1 April 2023, at Luka village near Phokeng.

The accused was arrested a year later and made his first appearance in court on

Thursday, 4 April 2024.

Lesuoia was consequently convicted after several court appearances and sentenced to five years direct imprisonment.

The Acting District Commissioner of Bojanala Sub-District 2, Brigadier Mamotsamai Ntoagae, welcomed the sentence, which she said will serve as a deterrence to potential criminals. She also thanked the Investigating Officer, Detective Sergeant Tshepang Badirwang and prosecution for a job well done.

# More than 2 million taxpayers withdraw from their savings pot

**BONUS - RUSTENBURG - The South African Revenue Service (SARS) has, to date, received 2 664 279 applications for tax directives for withdrawals from the Savings Withdrawal Benefit of the two-pot system.**

Of the total number of applications, 2 403 379 tax directives were approved for funds to be released. The remainder were declined for a variety of reasons, including incorrect identity numbers and incorrect tax numbers, amongst others.

A total gross lumpsum of R43.42 billion has been paid out, to date.

In line with SARS' intent for taxpayers to use digital channels, SARS is happy to announce that the simulated WhatsApp calculator was used 90 283 times since implementation of the process. The simulated calculator on the SARS website, which forms part of the SARS Online Query System, has been used 952 403 times. SARS has also received 128 802 queries through the voice channel, and 24 278 at branches.

Taxpayers are encouraged to continue to use the digital channels, which are simple, easy and user-friendly. Using these channels means taxpayers do not have to leave their homes or places of employment to stand in queues.

SARS reminds taxpayers who want to apply for a withdrawal to make sure that they verify their tax numbers, have supplied the correct identity numbers and that they do not have any outstanding debt with SARS.

After a registered taxpayer has applied, a successful tax directive informs the fund management how much tax to deduct from a withdrawal. Directive applications are

accepted by SARS 24/7 and processed within an hour 365 days a year from 08:00 to 19:00. Unless a directive application is submitted outside of these hours, the response - if the taxpayer is compliant - will be sent to the fund within an hour.

Before a final amount is paid to the applicant, the pension fund will be informed to also deduct any outstanding debt on behalf of SARS before any payout is made to the member. If a person has a debt arrangement with SARS, the withdrawal will not be affected. If there is a debt owed to SARS, it will be deducted in terms of such arrangement.

Taxpayers are reminded that tax will be imposed on a withdrawal at a marginal tax rate ranging between 18%-45%, depending on their scales. Despite this public information, there are taxpayers who are willfully understating their incomes.

SARS Commissioner Mr Edward Kieswetter said, "SARS is deeply concerned that 213 654 taxpayers have been identified who have declared incorrect taxable income with the view to have a more favourable tax rate. If a taxpayer understates their income, they are intentionally involved in evading their tax obligation. A penalty will be imposed on taxpayers who have understated income. I wish to caution taxpayers to refrain from this unbecoming conduct that borders on criminality. There are real consequences for this behaviour."

# The role companies play in addressing GBV

by Mara Glennie, Founder of the TEARS (Transform Education About Rape and Sexual abuse) Foundation

**BONUS - RUSTENBURG - The prevalence of gender-based violence (GBV) in South Africa cannot be ignored as it affects not just individuals but entire communities, including the workplace.**

Companies have a responsibility to address GBV through education, awareness, and support programmes.

It's also important to recognise and understand the challenges GBV victims face daily - because of domestic violence. These challenges have a direct impact on the workforce as survivors often experience anxiety, depression or Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), leading to decreased productivity.

Absenteeism can increase as survivors struggle to cope mentally and being employed in a toxic workplace can create an additional layer of complexity which can stall healing.

Navigating GBV in the workplace can feel daunting, but there are certain steps companies can take to become active allies and steer their employees towards healing and recovery:

Firstly, it is important to break the silence as many GBV survivors suffer in silence due to stigma and lack of awareness.

Workplace education initiatives can normalise conversations around GBV and create a safe space for survivors.

Workshops on consent, respect, and anti-harassment can reduce instances of workplace-related GBV and promote a culture of mutual respect. Also, creating tailored training programmes to offer mandatory GBV and harassment training for employees and leadership, can instill a supportive workplace culture. It is also pivotal to provide easy access to support systems. If these are not already available, provide access to counselling services, hotlines and flexible work arrangements for survivors. Policy implementation can also assist survivors when the company creates clear anti-GBV policies, ensuring all employees understand their rights and responsibilities.

Rebuilding self-worth and confidence after GBV has taken place, takes time, courage and support. At the same time, workplaces must recognise their role in addressing GBV through education; in providing the

necessary resources and by creating safe spaces where survivors can thrive. Together, we can dismantle the stigma surrounding GBV and create a society which prioritises dignity, respect and healing for all.



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- Data Sciences
- Human Resources
- Occupational Health & Safety
- Trades

**TARGETED AREAS**

Priority will be given to **ROSOND** Host Communities

**HOW TO APPLY:**  
Download application form from our website:  
[www.rosond.com](http://www.rosond.com)

**Rosond (Pty)Ltd prides itself on investing in the future. We are committed to advancing the skills and knowledge of the youth, especially in the areas where we operate.**

# SPCA Book Sale

**BONUS - RUSTENBURG - The next SPCA Book Sale will be taking place on Saturday, 8 February at the Safari Gardens Shopping Centre, starting from 08:30 till 12:00.**

Any donations of dog or cat food, secondhand items for the Charity shop, blankets, unwanted books etc can be put in the container at the Book Sale.

Please support the Book Sale and the Rustenburg SPCA.

Looking forward to meeting you on Saturday.

# Big money in art competition up for grabs

**BONUS - RUSTENBURG - With the new year already a month old, Rustenburg Herald/NW Bonus' art competition is in full swing again.**

With no less than two cash prizes of R1 000 each awarded every three months as well as two overall Grand Prizes of two shopping vouchers to the tune of R10 000 each, up for grabs at the end of the year.

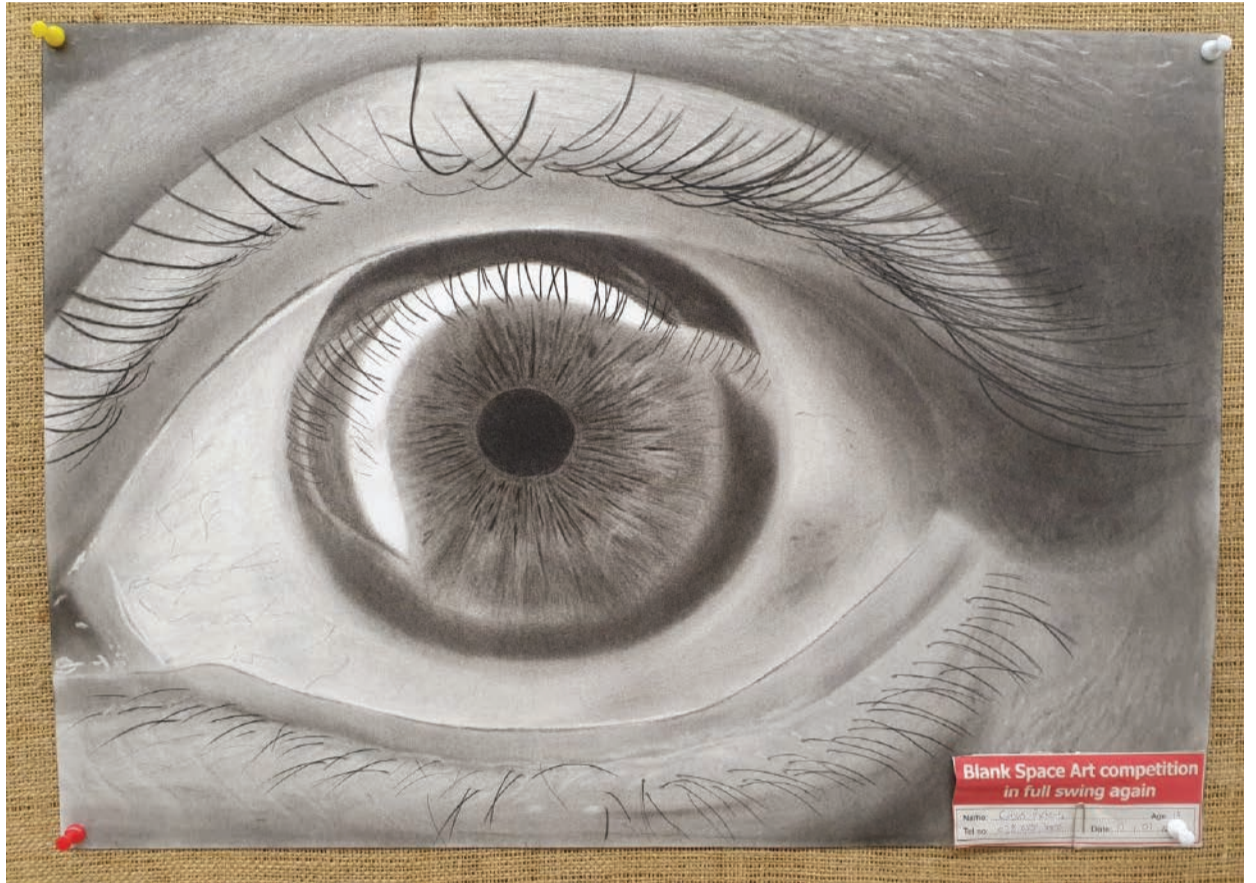
Amateur artists are invited to enter the competition by submitting art in virtually any form such as sketches, drawings, paintings, carvings, ceramic, wood, glass, plastics or whatever tickles your fancy.

We humbly request that entries are in moderate size in order for us to handle or display these or at least to allow you to enter these into our art competition entry

boxes located at Pick n Pay Beyers Naudé and Pick n Pay Greystone Crossing.

There is no entry fee and artists are free to enter as many artworks as they wish. We do emphasise however, that all entries are deemed surrendered to Rustenburg Herald/NW Bonus and will not be returned, except when their is a special request which we might consider. A closing date for the first term/quarter of the competition will be announced in due course.

Keep watching Rustenburg Herald/NW Bonus and keep those entries rolling.



## Rustenburg Herald DAGBOEK • DIARY 2025

Is there an important event at your company or organisation in the near future? Is a well-known artist the highlight on the local social calendar, or do you have a company that provides fun things/activities to do? If so, then place your diary entry to inform our readers of your events/activities.

### SPCA RUSTENBURG

**WISHLIST - WISHLIST - WISHLIST - WISHLIST - WISHLIST - WISHLIST**  
Blankets/Empty spray bottles/Black Refuse Bags/Steel Pot Scourers/Cat Litter / Pine Gel / Dip for dogs / Dip for cats / Deworming for cats / Deworming for dogs / Toys for cats / Toys for dogs / F10 Ointment / F10 spray / Tin food for dogs / Tin food for cats / Treats for dogs / Treats for cats / Leads for our dogs / Blankets / Beds for dogs / Beds for cats. Please donate.  
**Cat litter and tinned cans dog and catfood** depleted, any donations very welcome!

### OOS-ENDE BINGBAL KLUB

Oefentye: Maandae & Woensdae 18H30 tot 20H30  
h/v Fatima Bhayat & Bosch str, (oorkant Laerskool Rustenburg)  
Kontak: Manny Lourenco 076 416 2037 of  
Lettie Lourenco 072 619 8306. Almal is welkom!!

### GLASS PAINTING WORKSHOP

Date: **8 February 2025** Time: 11H00  
Venue: Wilde Olyf Farmstall, R30, Rustenburg  
Customise and paint your own unique glass with the help of a professional. Wine/Gin Glass - all will be provided. Free surprise drink!  
Water and light meal included.  
R295-00 per person. Limited space available.  
Bookings: 082 590 6591

### ANTIQUE ENGINE SHOW

Date: **15 February 2025** Time: 09H00  
Venue: President Paul Kruger Guest Lodge, R24/Old Johannesburg Rd  
Come and join us for some outdoor family fun  
Contact: 072 445 3856

### RUSTENBURG FARMERS MARKET

Date: Saturday, **1 MARCH 2025** Time: 09H00 - 15H00  
Venue: Rustenburg Show Grounds, Agricultural Portion, McGregor str, Rustenburg  
Bring the whole family, lots of stalls and produce available.  
Free entrance.  
Contact: 069 694 6897

**OUR WARD MATTERS** Ward 11  
Reg No: 2023/516738/08

**Rustenburg, we need your help!!**  
**Urgent Funds Needed**

Please assist us by donating funds for new brushcutters. 2 of our brushcutters broke and we need to replace them urgently to continue with our clean up. Thank you for your assistance. We appreciate all your help.

**To Donate:**  
Account Name: Our Ward Matters  
Account Number: 400997948  
Bank: First National Bank  
Branch Code: 250203 (Rustenburg Main)  
Account Type: Gold Business Account  
Tel: 073 333 3344

**To Participate, please contact:**  
Anika - 075 537 7667  
Gertien - 042 697 3545

Do you have an upcoming **EVENT/SHOW/ VENUE/MARKET** or anything **TO-DO** in and around Rustenburg? **Advertise here for only R68-00**

# Win a Valentine's Day weekend at Sun City Resort

**BONUS - RUSTENBURG - With love in the air on the Eve of Valentine's Day (14 February) young or elderly couples could be in for an unforgettable treat at Sun City.**

A lucky reader and his/her partner will get the chance to stay in the newly refurbished Sun City hotel. Sun City has a host of locations across the resort that are special every day of the year - but imagine whisking your special someone off for a spectacularly romantic weekend which includes dinner, accommodation, and a concert. This is how memories are made to last a lifetime.

You'll be staying at what is often referred to as the Main Hotel; the Sun City Hotel and Casino was the first hotel to be built on the resort. This four-star accommodation is at the core of the resort, and central to all the activities and things to do, with an amazing and diverse selection of restaurants and activities. And what is more, you will be staying in a newly refurbished room which has just seen a makeover.

With rooms overlooking the gardens and the glittering pool, from here you can explore the resort and enjoy a warm summer's day while sight-seeing with your partner. Bask in the sun and indulge in cocktails from the Sun City Hotel Pool Bar before dinner, or book yourselves in for a couples' massage.

Legends Restaurant offers guests trendy grill house style food complemented by a diverse beverage menu to suit an array of tastes. Its Valentine's offer includes a scrumptious food and wine pairing to up the romance.

On Sunday, 16 February, immerse yourself in soulful melodies and electrifying performances as you celebrate the universal language of love: music. Rusty Rocks Events, in collaboration with Metro FM, will present "Love Movement", an extraordinary musical journey at the heart of love and rhythm in The Greenhouse. The lineup includes Wilson B Nkosi, Sentle, Paul Mtirara and Msizi Shembe. They will be supported by Moloke Sithole, Vintilage, Bra T, Joey Meko and Nyati.

### Love every moment with your loved one - Sun City & NW Bonus Competition

Nominate someone you know, who as a couple, deserves a weekend away, and tell us why. Write a letter of motivation and email this to waldie@rustenburgherald.co.za

### The prize

A two-night stay for two people at Sun City Hotel valued at R14 390, including breakfast; dinner voucher to the value of R1 000; and two tickets for the Metro FM Love Movement concert on Sunday, 16 February, to the value of R1 000. Total prize value: R16 300.

### T&Cs

Both cell number and email address need to be included when entering. The prize is not transferable for cash. The winner must redeem the prize over the Valentine's weekend. Check in Saturday, 15 February, and checkout on Monday, 17 February.



A picture of a newly refurbished room at the luxurious Sun City Hotel. With Valentine's Day looming, a lucky couple could win a two-night stay - courtesy Sun City - during the month of love.

A standard advertisement (30 words) in the Rustenburg Herald, Bonus and our website will cost you only R68-00 (Vat incl) and can be placed and paid for on our website

(www.rustenburgherald.co.za) or at the reception offices of the Rustenburg Herald. A maximum of two advertisements combined (60 words) will cost only R136-00 (Vat incl).

# Empowering women, shaping future leaders, and driving transformation in South African agriculture

**BONUS - RUSTENBURG - As the South African agriculture sector continues to grow and evolve, AgriSETA (Agricultural Sector Education and Training Authority) remains steadfast in its mission to develop a skilled and capable workforce. In reflecting on the milestones achieved in 2024, AgriSETA celebrates its remarkable accomplishments, including a clean audit for the 2022/2023 financial year, bolstered support for women in agriculture, and transformative thought leadership initiatives aimed at shaping the future of agricultural education.**

AgriSETA's commitment to excellence was solidified with its achievement of a clean audit for the 2022/2023 financial year, a testament to the organisation's robust governance, financial integrity, and dedication to driving positive change in the agriculture sector.

In 2024, AgriSETA also significantly advanced its mandate to support women in agriculture, through a series of impactful partnerships and high-profile events. AgriSETA's collaboration with EmpowaWomen highlighted the pivotal role women play in the agricultural value chain. As part of this partnership, AgriSETA hosted the Agriculture Stage at the EmpowaWomen Leadership Summit, where thought-provoking panel discussions and masterclasses offered actionable insights and practical knowledge for women looking to elevate their presence and leadership in the agriculture sector.

The success of this collaboration culminated in the EmpowaWomen in Agriculture Summit, where AgriSETA hosted 120 women in agriculture. The summit celebrated women's entrepreneurial spirit and leadership with a dynamic farmers market that showcased locally-produced goods. This market wasn't just a space for commerce; it symbolised the economic empowerment and independence that AgriSETA strives to foster for women across the agriculture value chain.

AgriSETA also closed off 2024 with a significant step forward in shaping the future of agricultural education. In November, the organisation hosted its inaugural

AgriEdu Symposium themed "Transforming Agricultural Education for a Sustainable Future." The symposium, a convention of educators, policymakers, and industry leaders, was a highly engaged day of thought leadership and dialogue, focusing on aligning agricultural education with the evolving needs of the industry.

As AgriSETA looks ahead to 2025, it is poised to drive even greater impact with several key focus areas. These include: **Youth Participation in Agriculture:** AgriSETA aims to provide greater opportunities for young people to engage in agriculture, positioning the sector as a viable and rewarding career path. Through targeted programmes and partnerships, AgriSETA will continue to amplify the importance of youth involvement in agriculture, empowering the next generation to become agricultural leaders.

**Skills Development and Reform in Agricultural Education:** AgriSETA will further promote its learning and skills development interventions. The focus will be on shaping a capable and skilled workforce to support the growth of South Africa's agricultural sector and ensure alignment with industry needs.

**Comprehensive Rural Development and Land Reform:** AgriSETA's rural development and land reform approach is central to unlocking the agricultural sector's potential. The organisation will continue to focus on fostering inclusive growth through initiatives that support rural communities, with a particular emphasis on youth and women in agriculture.

**Economic Growth through Collaboration:** As an enabler of inclusive economic growth, AgriSETA will continue to build on its partnerships and efforts to transform the agricultural sector into a key driver of South Africa's economic recovery. By promoting agricultural careers, supporting youth entrepreneurship, and ensuring access to critical skills and training, AgriSETA will contribute to sustainable livelihoods across the country.

AgriSETA invites all stakeholders across the agriculture value chain to stay connected, engage in ongoing dialogue, and continue championing agriculture as a sustainable sector for economic growth and livelihoods. With a focus on collaboration and knowledge-sharing, AgriSETA will remain a catalyst for transformation, and a steadfast partner in developing the skills, talent, and leadership required to drive the agricultural sector forward.



AgriSETA AgriEdu-Symposium crew assisting with registration.



Ms Sharon Sepeng, AgriSETA Chairperson of the board.

## Garden hacks for unlocking the potential of soil

**BONUS - RUSTENBURG - Gardening begins with soil. By learning to identify and work with what you have, you can nurture your plants into a flourishing display.**

Understanding your soil is the key to helping your garden thrive. By getting to know your soil and working with it, you'll unlock the beauty and potential of your garden. Start small, dream big, and let nature take its course.

There are six primary soil types: clay, sandy, silt, loam, peat, and chalk. Each has unique characteristics that affect plant growth.

To identify your soil, try the simple "get-your-hands-dirty" test. Add water to a sample, roll it in your hands, and observe its texture. Is it sticky, gritty, spongy, friable, or slimy? This tactile approach reveals which soil type you have - and how to bring out its best.

Clay soil is rich in nutrients but slow to drain, clay soil can feel sticky and compact when wet. While it holds water and nutrients well, its density can make it challenging for roots to establish. Add organic matter like compost to improve drainage and create a better growing medium.

Sandy soil is generally light, gritty, quick-draining and easy to work with - but prone to nutrient loss. Compost is your ally here - it helps retain moisture and boosts fertility.

Silt soil has a silky-smooth texture and is moisture-retentive, which makes it fertile and easily compacted. Incorporate organic matter to bind particles together and reduce erosion.

Loam soil is the ideal blend of sand, silt, and clay. It is fertile, well-draining, and easy to work with. Even though it's a gardener's dream, regular additions of organic matter keep it thriving.

Peat soil is dark, spongy, and high in organic matter. It is ideal for acid-loving plants like azaleas and blueberries. As it is rare in most gardens, it can be used to enhance other soils.

Lastly, chalk soil is alkaline and prone to dryness, which can make life tricky for acid-loving plants. Adding organic matter helps, but it's best to focus on plants that thrive in alkaline conditions.

No matter your starting point, you can improve your soil and unlock its potential. Compost, manure, or decomposed materials can be dug into soil to boost nutrients, improve water retention, and enhance texture. Also, adding gypsum breaks up heavy clay soil, improving aeration and drainage. For sandy soil, blend one-third compost with sandy soil to reduce water loss and increase fertility.

Beware that overworking soil can damage its structure. Focus on cultivating the top few centimetres for best results.

Making your own compost is not just practical - it's deeply rewarding. By recycling kitchen scraps and garden waste, you create a nutrient-rich amendment that enriches your soil, while reducing waste.

You may include fruit and vegetable scraps in your compost as well as eggshells, paper egg boxes, newspaper, garden clippings and dead flowers. Manure from birds or animals and wood ash (in small amounts) also works wonders. Keep the compost damp (not soggy), turn it every few months to aerate, and watch it transform into rich, dark compost.

Ensure to avoid plastics, metals, and non-biodegradable materials when making your own compost. Beware diseased

plants and weeds with seeds, large branches, orange peels, and potato skins.

Healthy compost does wonders for your garden. It improves soil structure, encourages microbial activity, and boosts water retention. By adding it regularly, you'll create a vibrant environment where plants can flourish.



Gardening begins with soil - the key to helping your garden thrive.



Making your own compost is practical and rewarding to keep your garden looking glorious.

### DUNCAN COURT, HATFIELD, PRETORIA



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# Sport News

## SPAR Proteas upset hosts England at the Vitality Nations Cup

**BONUS - RUSTENBURG** - The courageous SPAR Proteas upset England on home soil at the 2025 Vitality Nations Cup 61-59 at the Motorpoint Arena in Nottingham on Sunday evening. South Africa is the only unbeaten side in the tournament following an impressive 75-40 victory over Uganda on Saturday in their tournament opener.

Before the match against England, currently ranked fourth in the world, the hosts had a stronger historical record against fifth ranked South Africa. England has dominated their encounters, winning 52 out of 69 matches, while South Africa has claimed victory in 16, with the remainder ending in a draw.

Sunday's match was tightly contested, with scores level at the end of the first three quarters. South Africa started strong in the first quarter, but England fought back to equalise. Both teams exchanged goals in the later stages of the opening quarter, with South Africa displaying patience in defence and determination in attack. The opening quarter score was 14-14.

In the second quarter, both teams battled fiercely, concluding a closely contested first half with scores tied at 30-30. It was clear that the final quarter would determine the match's outcome. With the score tied at 46-46 at the end of the third quarter, the stage was set for a dramatic finish.

As has become the norm in SPAR Proteas games, the fourth quarter was their strongest. They shifted gears in the final quarter and were able to breach the hosts' defence in quick succession.

Thanks to their impressive shooting, the SPAR Proteas maintained a consistent lead. With ten minutes remaining, the SPAR Proteas held a three-goal advantage. England struggled to keep up with the pace at which South Africa moved the ball in the final quarter, complemented by swift movement and agility. With seven minutes to go, South Africa extended their lead to nine points.

A late onslaught by the host nation was not enough to draw level, as they fell short by two points, losing the final quarter 13-15. This 61-59 win propelled the SPAR Proteas to the top of the four-team table.

The SPAR Proteas have a few days to prepare for their clash against Malawi on Saturday, 8 February, at the Copper Box Arena in London. The final is set for Sunday, 9 February, in London.



Pictured are Beth Cobden of England and SPAR Proteas Captain, Khanyisa Chawane, during day two of the 2025 Vitality Netball Nations Cup at the Motorpoint Arena in Nottingham, United Kingdom, on Sunday, 2 February. The SPAR Proteas defeated England with a score of 61-59. (Picture credit: Morgan Harlow)



Elmerè van der Berg, the SPAR Proteas Goal Shooter, takes a shot at goal against England during day two of the 2025 Vitality Netball Nations Cup at the Motorpoint Arena in Nottingham, United Kingdom, on Sunday, 2 February. The SPAR Proteas beat England 61-59. (Picture credit: Ben Lumley)



The SPAR Proteas claimed a 61-59 victory over England on day two of the 2025 Vitality Netball Nations Cup at the Motorpoint Arena in Nottingham, United Kingdom, on Sunday, 2 February. Fixtures continue 8 and 9 February, with the SPAR Proteas facing Malawi on Saturday, 8 February at 17:00. (Picture credit: Morgan Harlow)

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