



Steve Hofmeyr.

Lekker country fees om die draai

Ettienne van Rensburg

SASOLBURG - As die name Steve Hofmeyr, Demi Lee Moore, Ray Dylan, Peter Rischmuller, Dusty Dixon en Will Jordon nie country musiek skreeu nie, dan weet ek nie.

Op 26 April gaan Steve Hofmeyr en kie die verhoog by Die Veilig rock. Kaartjies beloop R200 per persoon. Vir besprekings skakel 072 409 2461.



Serapeng sa Dithlare and Environment NPC produce Mosikare cooking bags as a domestic source of energy for house holds.

Village kitchen benefits Waterdal community

Moleboheng Chaha

SEBOKENG - Serapeng sa Dithlare and Environment NPC is changing the lives of the Waterdal community for the better. In the beginning, the organisation's main focus was on producing organic vegetables. Currently, the NPC provides alternative energy through a village kitchen where women in the community can prepare hearty meals for their families, despite not having electricity.

Co-founder Mamosweu Tsoabi says the idea behind the alternative energy village kitchen emanates from what she calls 'energy poverty.' Energy poverty refers to a lack of access to adequate, affordable, and reliable energy services.

Tsoabi said they have electrical infrastructure in the area, but not everyone has access to it. In the kitchen, the women use a biogas digester, parabolic stove, and cooking bags as domestic sources of alternative energy.

"Over the years, we have researched through engaging

various environmental organisations about climate change and its impact on the environment. Because of the availability of the land, we then decided to open up this kitchen for community members."

Tsoabi said the women come to the centre to use these various products to prepare meals for their families. "While they are cooking, we will equip them with knowledge about climate change."

Tsoabi confirmed the Village Kitchen will be used to train more people on

how to design solar cookers and polystyrene shredding machines to recycle more polystyrene and train more women on how to design Mosikare cooking bags.

"Mosikare has created a value chain from the reclamation of materials in landfills and illegal dumping sites. Items such as old curtains and bedding sheets form part of the materials that are used in producing Mosikare cooking bags."

Serapeng sa Dithlare and Environment NPC recently gave back to the community by donating 28 cooking bags to grannies in Tshepong.



A few community members have been given land by the NPC to make their own food garden.



Serapeng sa Dithlare and Environment NPC recently gave back to the community by donating 28 cooking bags to grannies in Tshepong.

Dames is julle gereed vir Dirk?!

Ettienne van Rensburg

MEYERTON - Dames hou vas aan jul rookspante want dit gaan 'n pretrit soos min wees wanneer Dirk van der Westhuizen in Meyerton optree.

Merk solank 19 April op jou kalender. Om 20:30 gaan die poppe by Die Veiling in Meyerton dans. Koste beloop R80 per persoon.

Vir tafelbesprekings stuur die woord **BESPREEK** na 082 308 9216 via WhatsApp.



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NOTICE OF APPLICATION

FOR AN ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION, WATER USE LICENSE AND A HERITAGE PERMIT FOR THE PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION OF NEW SYSTEM 1 AT RAND WATER VEREENIGING TREATMENT WORKS, INSTALLATION OF APPROXIMATELY 7KM PHASE 2 SLUDGE PIPELINE IN VEREENIGING, 1.5KM SLUDGE LINE IN PANFONTEIN AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE WITHIN THE JURISDICTION OF SEDIBENG DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY, GAUTENG PROVINCE.

ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION:

In terms of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2014 (as amended) promulgated under the National Environmental Management Act – NEMA (Act No. 107 of 1998), a Basic Assessment Process will be followed to apply for an Environmental Authorisation (EA) which will be submitted to the National Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE) for the Proposed Construction of New System 1, the Installation of Phase 2 Sludge Pipeline in Vereeniging, 1.5m Sludgeline in Panfontein and Associated Infrastructure within the jurisdiction of Sedibeng District Municipality, Gauteng Province.

WATER USE LICENSE:

Furthermore, a Water Use License Application process for the said proposed development is also underway in terms of the Water Use License Application and Appeals Regulations, 2017(amended) promulgated under the National Water Act – NWA (Act No. 36 of 1998) and will be submitted to the Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS).

HERITAGE PERMIT:

A Heritage Permit from the Gauteng Provincial Heritage Resources Authority (PHRA-G) will, in addition, be required for activities undertaken at the Rand Water Vereeniging Treatment Works (RWVTW). The Treatment Works is believed to be over 100 years old and holds significant historical importance in South Africa's water supply history. Therefore, Section 34(1) of the National Heritage Resource Act, 1999 (Act No. 25 of 1999) mandates that any proposed modifications to the facility require prior approval from the competent authority.

PROJECT DESCRIPTIONS AND LOCATION:

Rand Water (applicant) proposes the Construction of New System 1, the Installation of Phase 2 sludge Pipeline in Vereeniging, 1.5m Sludgeline in Panfontein, and Associated Infrastructure within the jurisdiction of Sedibeng District Municipality, Gauteng Province. The project spans three locations but remains within the jurisdiction and servitude of Rand Water. The coordinates to the sites are: **PANFONTEIN: 26°42'51.76" S 28°02'08.18" E, SYSTEM 1 VEREENIGING: 26°41'15.46" S 27°55'06.63" E, PHASE 2 PIPELINE SLUDGELINE: 26°41'55.80" S 27°54'51.63" E.**

INVITATION TO PARTICIPATE

This Notification is hereby given to all Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) in terms of Section 41(1)(a) of the National Water Act, 1998, Section 34(1) of the National Heritage Resources Act (No. 25 of 1999) and Regulation 19(1)(a) of the EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended), that Rand Water intends to submit applications for a Water Use License (WULA), Environmental Authorisation and Heritage Permit, to DWS, DFFE and PHRA-G, respectively, and the triggered activities are:

Environmental Authorisation	Water Use License	Heritage Permit
Government Notice No. 327 of 2017 (as amended)	National Water Act (Act No. 36 of 1998)	National Heritage Resources Act (No. 25 of 1999)
Listing Notice 1: Activities – 10, 9, 13, 19 & 27	Section 21 (c) - impeding or diverting the flow of water in a water course.	Section 34 (1) – Heritage permit to alter or demolish any structure older than 60 years.
Government Notice No. 324 of 2017 (as amended)	Section 21 (i) - altering the bed, banks, course, or characteristics of a watercourse;	
Listing Notice 3: Activity – 12 (c) & Activity – 14 (c)		

To register as an Interested and/or Affected Party (I&AP) and to obtain additional information regarding the proposed project, please contact **Selahle Consultancy and Projects (Pty) Ltd** on or before **Thursday, 22 May 2025**, by submitting your name, contact details and the interest which you have in the application to the details below.

Selahle Consultancy and Projects (Pty) Ltd
 Person(s): Shonisani Selahle / Sinnah Mhlongo
 Tel: 011 026 2560 | WhatsApp: 079 569 5277 | Fax: 086 532 0398
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The Thothotho Gin story begins at VUT

■ Qhawekazi Memani

VAN DER BIJLPARK - In the heart of Limpopo's villages, long before distilleries and branded spirits, there was Thothotho, a potent, unfiltered traditional drink. Once a symbol of unity at weddings and gatherings, this ancestral spirit was crafted with skill and care, and its secrets were passed from generation to generation. However, as colonial laws sought to erase indigenous brewing traditions, Thothotho, like many African spirits, was driven underground.

For Moshe Mello, a PhD student at Vaal University of Technology (VUT), this story was not just history, it was personal.

Growing up in Ga-Mphahlele, Mello was immersed in the tales of his grandmother, Pheladi Tladi, who was a revered distiller of Mokoporo, a traditional vodka-like spirit known as Thothotho. She mastered the craft in the early 20th century, using indigenous ingredients and age-old techniques. However, the government's crackdown on local distillation forced her to abandon her passion.

The stills fell silent, but the legacy lived on in whispered stories and distant memories.

Now, Mello is determined to bring back what was almost lost. Whilst pursuing his PhD in Chemical Engineering at VUT, he saw an opportunity to fuse traditional knowledge with modern innovation. Instead of simply recreating Thothotho, he sought to refine it, adapting the distillation process to meet industry standards whilst preserving its bold, original character. Mello experimented with indigenous botanicals, ensuring that the essence of the spirit remained untouched whilst enhancing its depth and complexity. Thothotho Premium Gin, a spirit that bridges the past and present. More than just a drink, it is a cultural statement, a declaration that heritage can evolve without losing its soul. In 2025, the first bottle of Thothotho Premium Gin was produced, not just as a premium spirit

but as a movement. Through his distillery, Mello is reviving a lost tradition, giving voice to the untold stories of African distillers who, for centuries, kept their craft alive in the shadows. Today, Thothotho Distillery is more than a brand; it is a tribute to resilience. It honours those who brewed in secret, safeguarded their knowledge, and refused to let history fade. Speaking on Mello's journey, Dr Simphiwe Nelana, Deputy Vice-Chancellor of Research, Innovation, Commercialisation, and Internationalisation (RICI) at VUT, praised his ability to merge academic research with real-world impact. "Mello's work is a shining example of how research and innovation can preserve cultural heritage whilst driving economic growth. At VUT, we encourage students to think beyond the classroom and create meaningful and transformative solutions. Thothotho Premium Gin is not just a product, but a celebration of African ingenuity, and we are incredibly proud of Mello's achievements."



Producer of Thothotho Premium Gin, Moshe Mello.



Die vreesaanjaende T-Rex wat bekendheid in die fliek Jurassic Park verwerf het.

Prehistoriese pret in die Vaal

■ Ettiëne van Rensburg

VEREENIGING - Die Vaal Skougronde gaan van 17 tot 20 April in rep en roer wees wanneer die Jurassic Giant Festival 'n draai kom maak. Na suksesvolle feeste in 2023 en 2024 in Durban, Pretoria en Johannesburg is die Vaaldriehoek volgende op die lys.

Die meganiese dinosourusse gaan oud en jonk se oë en ore laat rek. Twee van die

groot trekpleisters is die T-Rex (13m) en Australotitan (20m). Die feesterein beslaan sowat 10 000m². Daar gaan pretritte, kos en stalletjies wees, asook 'n Dino Expo, Jurassic Giants, dinosourus straatteater, reptiel vertoning, pretritte, dinosourus speelarea, springkasteelarea, fossiel opgraving en 'n piknik area. Die hekke open om 09:00 en sluit 17:00. Besoek Dino World Travel op Facebook vir kaartjiepryse en meer inligting.



Warming Hearts in the Vaal Triangle

The Helplift Network's dedicated knitting team recently donated 39 lovingly knitted items to the Helplift Charity Store, keeping Vaal children warm this winter. On the far left is Annemarie Zoellner, Helplift Charity Shop Manager, who received the donation. The knitting team includes Magda McGeer, Allison Moorcroft, Bongwiwe Seya, Cathrine Ferreira, Elizabeth Mokolopo, Ems Barnard, Grace Mofokeng, Pinkey Matla, Princess Matla, Pearl Mokhothu, and Tersia Kellerman (Helplift Management). The organisation expressed a heartfelt thank you to the talented knitters for their kindness and service to the community. (Some team members were absent on the day the photo was taken).



All prospective tenderers, please take note that the North-West University is not going to advertise tenders in the media anymore.

All available open tenders will be advertised on the following webpages only:

1. NWU WEBSITE: <https://www.nwu.ac.za/nwu-tenders>
2. LEADS2BUSINESS WEBSITE: <https://www.l2b.co.za/>
3. ONLINE TENDERS WEBSITE: <https://www.onlinetenders.co.za/>

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