

**Business:** Prime Minister condemns border jumping  
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**Health:** Letšeng Mine intervenes as drought adversely impacts lives  
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# Metro

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THURSDAY Nov 26 - Dec 2, 2020

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National MTB Championship on in December

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## ECONOMY SINKS BEFORE REBOUND

- Textile, mining sink economy
- Lesotho's economy sink by 6 percent before it is expected to rebound in the 2021-2022 by just 4.33 percent

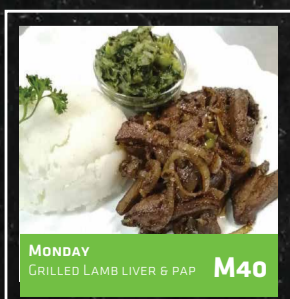
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**WiseWORDS:** Opportunities don't happen, you create them.  
~ Chris Grosser.



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## On This Day in History

### 1950 Chinese counterattacks in Korea change nature of war

In some of the fiercest fighting of the Korean War, thousands of communist Chinese troops launch massive counterattacks against U.S. and Republic of Korea (ROK) troops, driving the Allied forces before them and putting an end to any thoughts for a quick or conclusive U.S. victory. When the counterattacks had been stemmed, U.S. and ROK forces had been driven from North Korea and the war settled into a grinding and frustrating stalemate for the next two-and-a-half years.



In the weeks prior to the Chinese attacks, ROK and U.S. forces, under the command of General Douglas MacArthur, had succeeded in driving deeper into North Korea and were nearing the border with the People's Republic of China (PRC). The PRC issued warnings that the Allied forces should keep their distance, and beginning in October 1950 troops from the Chinese People's Liberation Army began to cross the border to assist their North Korean ally. Their numbers grew to around 300,000 by early November.

## Directory

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- Crime Hotline: 22313337
- WASCO: 22262000
- LEC: 52100000
- Police Station: 22317262
- Airport: 22350777
- MRTD: 2232 5494
- Ombudsman: 22316425
- Metro News Tips: 2232 5494
- Border Control: 22325740

## Essentials

- Registration Fees**
- Motor cycle solo with engine of cylinder in capacity not exceeding 350 cc will cost M100
  - Motor cycle solo with engine of cylinder in excess of 350 cc - M150
- Motor Vehicle License Fees**
- Motor Vehicle License Fees motor cycle with engine capacity not exceeding 350 cc - M100
  - Other motor vehicles for the first vehicle - M1 000
  - For every additional vehicle other than a motor cycle - M500
- Motor vehicle, trailers and construction equipment clearance fees:**
- 0 - 750 kg: M150.00
  - 11.50kg and more: M1600
- Examination fees for roadworthy certificates:**
- Motor cycle not exceeding 350 cc - M200
  - Other motor cycle, tractor or trailer - M200
  - Light motor vehicle - M220
  - Heavy commercial vehicles - M300
  - Vehicle examiner's prohibition for vehicle's Un-roadworthiness - M350
- Certificates of fitness for passenger vehicle:**
- Motor cars, 4+, and driving - M200
  - Commercial passenger's vehicles, if carrying capacity does not exceed 22 passengers - M250
  - If carrying capacity exceeds 22 but less than 60 passengers - M300
  - If carrying capacity exceeds 60 passengers - M350
- Certificate of fitness for goods vehicles:**
- Where tare weight does not exceed 3,500kg - M100
  - Where tare weight exceeds 3,500kg but does not exceed 11,000kg - M150
  - Combination of vehicles - M150
  - Trailers if tare weight does not exceed 5,000kg - M100
  - If tare weight exceed 5,000kg - M150
- Documents:**
- Certificate of road worthiness and fitness - M100, other motor vehicles licenses - M100
  - Motor cycle not exceeding 350cc - M50
  - Other motor vehicle licenses - M100
- Application fees:**
- Learners license - M50
  - Theory test - M50
  - Driving test and re-test - M50
  - Public driving instructor's test - M100
  - Driving school permit - M150
- Issuance of driver's license:**
- Light duty - M200
  - Heavy duty - M250
  - Extra-heavy duty - M400
  - Driving instructor's certificate - M300
  - Public driving permit - M200
- Renewals of driver's licences:**
- Motor cycle not exceeding 350cc - M120
  - Learner's license - M50
  - Light duty - M200
  - Heavy duty - M250
  - Extra heavy duty - M400
  - Driving instructor's certificate - M300
  - Public driving permit - M200
  - Driving school permit - M420
- Special Permit:**
- Initial issuance - M200
  - Renewal - M400
  - Supply of information from the records - M100
  - Duplicate of document - M300
  - Transfer of registration number (section 12(2) of the act) - M150
  - Transfer of ownership - M100
  - Set of number plates - M400

# Economy sinks before rebound

- Textile, mining sink economy
- Lesotho's economy sink by 6 percent before it is expected to rebound in the 2021-2022 by just 4.33 percent

NEO SENOKO  
business@maserumetro.com

**MASERU** - The textile and mining industries - the two pillars of domestic economy, are the main reasons behind the 6.0 percent economic slump as projected by the Central Bank of Lesotho (CBL) for the 2020 fiscal year.

The two industries are among some of the primary contributors to the country's economy with mining, which is dominated by diamonds, accounting for 5.7 percent of GDP in 2019.

The textile and clothing industry on the other hand is the largest private sector employer, with more than 40 000 people employed in the industry as of the first quarter of 2019.

Both industries have been hard hit by the COVID-19 pandemic, which led to a significant drop in production. Dreams were shattered and poverty rose to new standards as thousands of people lost jobs in the textile and mining industries.

On November 24, the CBL Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) warned that domestic economy is projected to contract by a revised 6.0 percent in the last part 2020, due to the economic fallout of the COVID-19 pandemic.

"The output contraction is expected to be led by a decline in economic activity in the textile and clothing industry, construction as well as mining industry," CBL governor Dr Retšelisitsoe Matlanyane said when announcing the MPC statement.

In the medium term, the CBL governor allayed fears, revealing that the economy is projected to recover gradually and grow at an average rate of 4.33 percent over the period 2021-2022.

While the recovery is conditional on developments related to the COVID-19 containment, Dr Matlanyane said it was likely to come largely at the back of a strong rebound in the mining and construction industries.

The rate of inflation, measured by year on year percentage change in consumer price index (CPI), registered 5.6 percent in October 2020, relative to 5.9 percent in September, the same period.

"This was mainly due to an increase in



Central Bank of Lesotho governor Dr Retšelisitsoe Matlanyane

food and non-alcoholic beverages as well as clothing and footwear," Dr Matlanyane added.

In terms of the outlook, the revised annual inflation rate is projected to register a revised 5.0 percent this year before increasing to 5.2 percent and 5.3 percent in 2021 and 2022 respectively.

Money supply, as measured by M2, increased by 4.3 percent in the third quarter, following a decline of 0.7 percent in the second quarter.

The increase, according to the CBL, was due to a rise in net foreign assets and net domestic assets.

Private sector credit improved by 2.1 percent in the quarter ending September 2020, compared to a decrease of 6.1 percent in the quarter ending June 2020.

Moreover, the current account balance worsened in the third quarter, with government budgetary operations also registering a fiscal deficit of 4.3 percent of GDP during the second fiscal quarter ending September 2020.

This is relative to a revised surplus of 13.8 percent in the first quarter of the fiscal

year ending June 2020.

"The current account balance worsened on account of an increased deficit on the goods account as imports rose faster than exports. Consequently, the gross international reserves as measured in months of import cover, declined to 4.1 months from a revised 5.9 months in the previous quarter despite a moderate increase in official reserves," the governor further showed.

Having considered the Net International Reserve (NIR) developments and outlook, regional inflation and interest rate outlook, domestic economic conditions and the global economic outlook, the MPC decided to increase the NIR target floor from US\$540 million to US\$ 635 million.

The NIR target remains consistent with the maintenance of the exchange rate peg between the loti and the South African rand.

The committee further decided to maintain the CBL rate at a rate of 3.50 percent per annum. The rate, set at this level, will ensure that the domestic cost of funds remains aligned with the rest of the region.

## Technology

# Analysis: Another bitcoin bubble?

... This time it's different, backers hope



TOM WILSON,  
ANNA IRRERA

LONDON - With bitcoin surging to the cusp

of its 2017 all-time high, backers are hoping fewer frenzied retail investors means less chance of a crash this time around.

But with little mainstream usage as a form of payment and global uncertainty clouding financial markets, bitcoin is still far from a safe bet, analysts said.

"There are a lot of differences to what was happening before," said Larry Cermak, director of research at cryptocurrency media firm The Block.

Bitcoin broke \$18,000 on Wednesday to hit its highest since Dec. 2017, having soared about 160% this year.

The steep trajectory of its 2020 rally echoes that of 2017, when a retail-led buying spree pushed it to nearly \$20,000, only to crash more than 50% a month later.

Meanwhile large firms including Fidelity Investments and Japan's Nomura Holdings

Inc have starting safeguarding bitcoins and other cryptocurrencies for institutional investors.

"The accessibility has changed from three years ago so the types of players that are willing to go in has broadened," said Tim Swanson, head of market intelligence at blockchain software firm Clearmatics.

Mainstream companies and governments are among those embracing digital coin technology.

Bitcoin's supply is capped at 21 million, shielding it from policies that stoke inflation, proponents say.

The narrative has allowed "a wider group of investors, including those with a more fundamental mindset, to participate in price setting," said Richard Galvin of crypto fund Digital Asset Capital Management.

REUTERS

## Four babies are born every second

**Fast FACTS**  
Every second, we welcome four new babies into our overall population. Do a little math and you'll find out that means there are approximately 250 births each minute, 15,000 each hour, and 360,000 each day. In a full year, there are around 131.4 million babies born on Earth, according to the Ecology Global Network.



**Budget**  
In a financial planning context the word 'budget' (as a noun) strictly speaking means an amount of money that is planned to be spend on a particular activity or resource. This is typically over a trading year, although budgets apply to shorter and longer periods, and may refer to costs allocated to projects of flexible timescales. An overall organizational plan usually contains the budgets within it for all the different departments and costs held by them. The verb 'to budget' means to calculate and set a budget, although in a looser context it also means to be careful with money and find reductions (effectively by setting and maintaining a lower 'budgeted' or reduced level of expenditure).



**Why I did not show up for work**  
This is why I didn't show up for work yesterday. I was cleaning out my wife's grandpa's cellar and found 12 bottles of his home-bottled grape wine under the steps. My wife told me to empty the contents of each and every bottle down the sink, or else. I agreed to do the unpleasant task.

I withdrew the cork from the first bottle and poured the contents down the sink, with the exception of one glass, which I drank. I extracted the cork from the second bottle, did likewise, and drank one glass, just to check the taste to see if the old fellow knew his wine making. He did.

I then opened the third bottle, and poured it, too, down the sink, but not until drinking one full glass to check the purity. It was very good. I did this, also with the fourth bottle. One glass for myself, and the rest down the sink. I pulled the bottle from the cork of the next, and drank one sink out of it and threw the rest down the glass. I pulled the sink out of the next glass and poured the cork from the bottle, then corked the sink with the glass, bottled the drink and drank the pour.

When I had everything emptied, I steadied the house with one hand, counted the bottles, corks, glasses and sinks with the other, which were 29, and as the house came by I counted them again, and finally had all the houses in one bottle, which I drank. I felt so foolish that I couldn't go upstairs and congratulate my wife to tell her what a great winemaker her grandpa was. I will do that after climbing the basement steps the next time they come by.

## READ Online

- Sakoane sworn is as new Chief Justice
- Unavailable records disrupt Kamoli trial
- DC rallies behind Mochoboroane, Metsing



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**ZAR1.00**



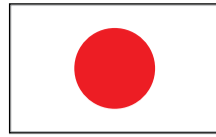
American Dollar  
**US\$15.37**



Europe's Euro  
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British Pound  
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Japanese Yen  
**¥0.15**



Chinese Yuan  
**¥2.34**



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**COMMODITIES** (International Rates in US\$)

<b>STOCKS</b>	
S&P500	3,577.59
NASDAQ100	11,905.94
Nikkei225	26,165.59
Dow Jones30	29,591.27
FTSE 100	6,379.74
JSE	57,685.00
Hang Seng	26,588.20
<b>PRECIOUS METALS</b>	<b>PRICE (US\$)</b>
Gold	1,826.25
Platinum	942.00
Silver	23.35
Copper	7,320.99
Crude Oil / Brent Oil	46.42
<b>EQUITIES</b>	
Bonds	18.44
Treasury Bills	3.67
Interest Rates	7.67

**AGRICULTURE** (Rates in Maloti/Rands)

Maize Meal p/kg	M7.00	Eggs p/tray	M45.00
Wheat Meal p/kg	M10.00	Milk (fresh) p/litre	M16.00
Cabbage p/kg	M14.00	Milk (sour) p/litre	M20.00
Potatoes p/kg	M10.50	Rice p/kg	M30.00
Brown Bread p/loaf	M10.00	White Sugar p/kg	M22.00
White Bread p/loaf	M11.00	Brown Sugar p/kg	M25.00
Sorghum Meal p/kg	M25.00	Beef p/kg	M85.00
Brown Beans p/kg	M30.00	Mutton p/kg	M90.00
Tomato	M15.00		

**ENERGY** (Rates in Maloti/Rands)

Petrol Unleaded 93 p/litre	M10.80
Unleaded 95 p/litre	M10.90
Diesel 50PPm p/litre	M10.95
Paraffin p/litre	M6.35
Water (Domestic) p/litre	M5.53
Water (Industrial) p/litre	M15.03
Electricity (Domestic) p/unit	M1.38
Electricity (Industrial) p/unit	M0.26
Gas p/kg	M20.00

# Cashbuild opens new store



**HARD AT WORK:** Employees at the new Cashbuild store

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**MASERU-** With 42 years of trading experience and over 250 walk-in stores, Cashbuild is expanding its wings and opening a new branch in Masianokeng on Thursday.

As people navigate their way through new challenges during the COVID-19, the company continues to supply the industry and general public with lower prices, top quality building materials, paint, tools and hardware.

To make things easier for customers, the company has created a range of value-added services including free local delivery and a glass cutting service where large panes can be cut into custom sizes, depending on the shopper's needs.

"There is also a service which is similar to a layby facility and allows customers to accumulate funds until they have enough to buy what they need. The Cashbuild payment card

can be used for this purpose," the company said on Wednesday.

The store further has a VIC (Very Important Customer) programme, which rewards customers based on the value of their purchases.

"There are specific terms and conditions that apply to this programme. Another unique initiative from Cashbuild is that of 'Send a House Home', whereby goods may be paid for at one store, but picked up at or delivered from another store," the company added.

Through its Art-at-Heart initiative, Cashbuild has a heart for education and looks forward to the day when it may once again celebrate its store openings with the Art-at-Heart events through art competitions with local schools.

This corporate social initiative has been running for nearly 20 years and enabled more than M44 million worth of Cashbuild vouchers to be given to over 3 500 schools in South Africa.

The schools enter the art project competition in which the winning art work is displayed in Cashbuild stores and the schools use their vouchers to buy building materials so that they may repair and maintain their school buildings.

Cashbuild product ranges include cement, timber products, paints, flooring, plumbing, water tanks, electrical equipment, general hardware, ladders, power tools and anything anyone might need for building work, repairs and even decor items.

All of the company stores have implemented necessary COVID-19 health precautions. Standard safety measures are in place and customers are not allowed to enter any store if they are not wearing face masks.

Shoppers must adhere to social distancing rules at all times and sanitising stations are located at all store entrances, till points and at various cleaning stations within the stores.

# Border Hopping! ... PM condemns border jumping

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**MASERU -** Prime Minister Dr Moeketsi Majoro has condemned the untoward illegal crossings between Lesotho and South Africa currently prevalent in Maputsoe, Leribe.

Delivering his COVID-19 national address on November 22, he said the government had decided to open the economy across all sectors as new cases of the pandemic subsided.

Despite a significant contraction in new COVID-19 cases, Dr Majoro sent out a strong message to people who have made it a habit and normalised the use of porous borders, particularly in Maputsoe, to cross over to and from South Africa.

He called on an immediate stop to the illegal border hopping in order to avoid the risk of super spreading the pandemic between the two neighboring countries.

The pandemic has already killed more than 20 000 people in South Africa with above 770, 000 cases reported. In Lesotho, coronavirus has killed 44 people with 2092 positive cases reported. Another 1277 people have recovered from the pandemic. "The illegal movement between

the two countries will bring us pain. So the district leadership in Leribe has to double its efforts in dealing with this issue. It should work with both police and the army to fight the behavior before things gets out of hand," the Premier also said.

Scores of people from Lesotho cross over to South Africa through the Mohokare river in Maputsoe, mostly with the assistance of illegal border dealers, commonly known as Lirurubele (Butterflies).

These dealers use inflatable mattresses to ferry their usually desperate passengers across the normally flooded river.

Lirurubele hold mattresses on the sides as they gradually and carefully navigate their way through the murky waters with the passengers perched on the mattresses.

Several deaths have since been reported by the police in the area and at other undesignated crossing points. To cross to the other side of the border usually comes with a fee ranging from M50 to M200, depending on the risk assessments at the time. However, there are some people, who do not require any assistance to cross the river as they are now used to the situation.

Their only nightmare comes when there is police presence in the area. Porous borders are mainly used by people who do not have passports and or those who do not have enough funds to pay for COVID-19 certificates as required by the regulations.

Majoro applauded Quthing and Qacha's Nek for deploying the best measures in dealing with illegal crossings between Lesotho and South Africa, especially now in the midst of the pandemic.

His remarks come less than a month after the Minister of Home Affairs Motlaletoa Letsosa had a virtual meeting with his South African counterpart Dr Aaron Motsoaledi, in a move to address cross border concerns.

Among some of the issues discussed, the two ministers weighed in on the possibility of allowing free movement of people who reside along the borders of the two countries.

"The discussions are ongoing but there is absolutely no need for people who reside along the river to go all the way to the border gate just to visit their neighbours or relatives on the other side. We are working on this issue," Mr Letsosa had said shortly after the meeting.



**BORDER HOPPERS:** Basotho cross the Mohokare river on foot

Thousands of Basotho who work in South Africa have been dealt a devastating blow as they struggle to move between the two countries either to or from work due to restrictive lockdown protocols.

Some have since lost their jobs due to the pandemic, which resulted in the closing of borders.

Last week, the Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Relations 'Matšepo Ramakoae also met her

SA counterpart, Dr Naledi Pandor and their discussions were centred on a Joint Bilateral Commission of Cooperation (JBCC). Mrs Ramakoae emphasised the need to strengthen cross border cooperation between the two countries, adding that while dealing with JBCC, security should be deepened by both countries in order to tackle the current concerns such as illegal crossings, human trafficking, stock theft and smuggling of drugs.



## NEO SENOKO

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**MASERU-** Economic activities have finally been unlocked, with the government announcing on Sunday that the country is moving from purple to blue colour as per the COVID-19 guidelines.

Under the blue stage, economic activities across all sectors are allowed to operate in full capacity while adhering to COVID-19 protocols.

Prime Minister Dr Moeketsi Majoro revealed in his COVID-19 national address on Sunday evening that the decision to open the economy came following a recent significant drop in new coronavirus cases, from 10 to five per cent.

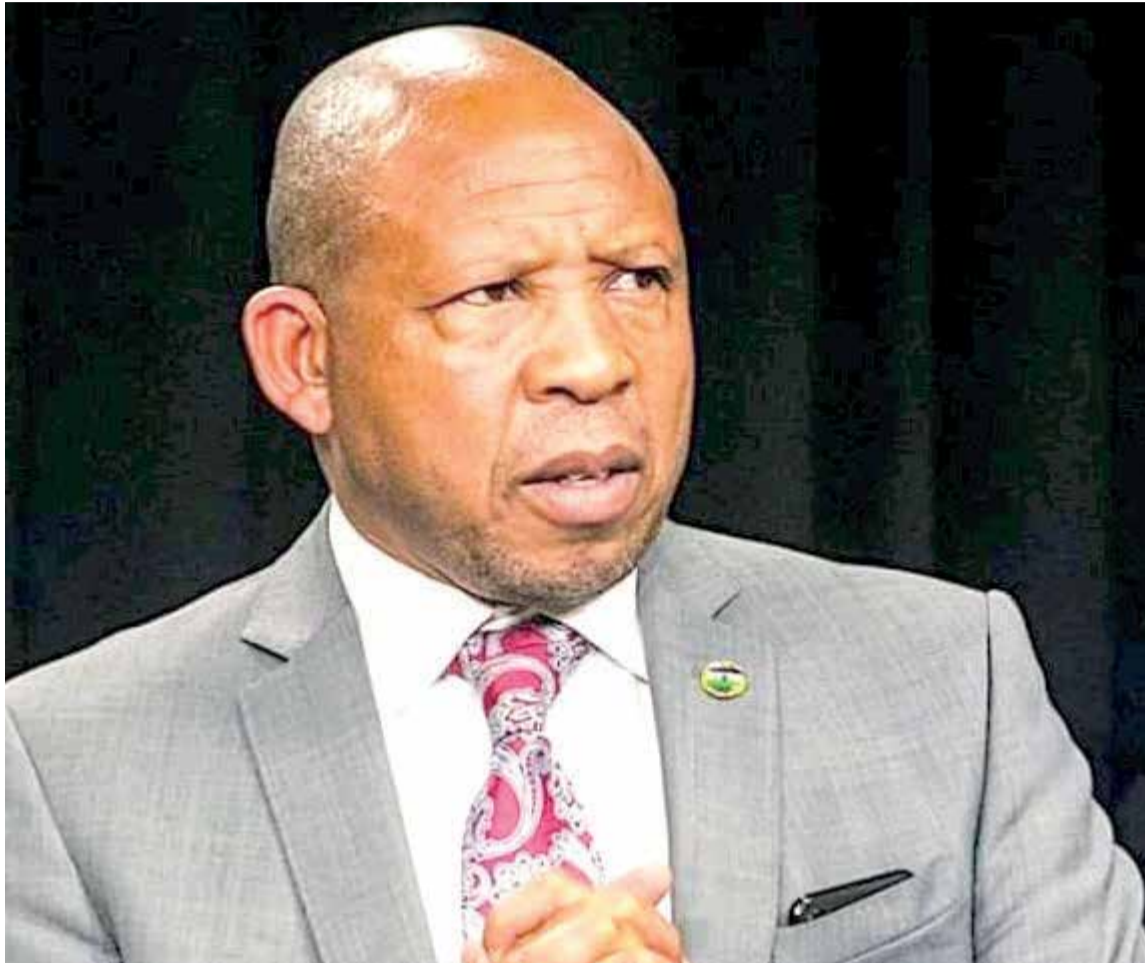
Only one positive case of the pandemic was reported on Sunday, bringing the number of positive cases to 2 086. A total of 1 276 people have recovered to this end, with 44 related deaths reported.

A total of 25 390 tests have been conducted.

"We have decided to move to the blue colour because fewer cases are being reported recently. World Health Organisation (WHO) protocols clearly state that the economy can open in cases where statistics of new cases are at five per cent.

"We really appreciate your collaboration with government in adhering to all the protocols as we continue to fight the pandemic. Let us continue working together and maintain

# Economy opens as COVID-19 cases drop



Prime Minister Dr Moeketsi Majoro

the standards particularly now that the economy is fully open," Dr Majoro said. As per the guidelines, moving to the blue colour brings

an end to the ban on international travel and people will be allowed to come in and out of the country, while observing protocols.

Tourists are also allowed to enter Lesotho but all should be in possession of a 72-hour negative certificate.

All liquor stores are allowed to open, with night clubs permitted to operate from 6pm to 12 midnight.

Only 50 per cent capacity is allowed with registration of customers and regular disinfection is also encouraged.

Furthermore, indoor entertainment is also permitted, subject to the issuance of a permit by the Ministry of Tourism. Events can start at 10am with clear security measures in place to ensure protocols.

"We had a meeting with players in the entertainment industry and we reached the conclusion that outdoor entertainment can open only in privately owned property with a maximum of 120 people per 300 square metres. In large open areas, only a maximum of 2 500 people are allowed," the premier also showed.

Weddings, he further noted are allowed with only 50 people attending if held indoors and 100 people in an open door setting. Despite the opening, Dr Majoro however, warned that people should stick to the protocols because if not, the country might have to go back to a complete lockdown as the second wave of the pandemic is likely.

# Kao Mine spends M28m on building new village

## KABELO MASOABI

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**BOTHA-BOTHE** – The Kao Mountain Storm Diamonds (MSD) Mine has spent M28 million on the construction of 15 news houses belonging to residents of Tiping who were relocated from their original homes to the new village of Porenki.

According to the mine's Chief Executive Officer Mohale Ralikiriki, 33 other repositioned families have opted to be given cash compensation in order to build their own new houses in other locations within the area.

Porenki is a new neighbourhood established by the Kao Mine to accommodate relocated households that used to live on the land now utilised for Kao mining operations.

"The new houses are of higher standard compared to the old ones that these people used to live in. The houses have electricity and flat screen televisions among other luxuries. Water taps, toilets, kraals and roads have been constructed to meet basic needs of the new village," Mr Ralikiriki explained on Wednesday, during the handing over ceremony of the new homes.

He said after four years of intensive consultations with the

villagers and other stakeholders, the project has finally been completed.

"The mine has also realised the need to build a health clinic in the new village; a huge necessity for the people of Kao," he said.

Echoing similar sentiments, SMD board chairman Robert Cowley said the financial benefit the mine gets from selling diamonds harvested at the mine should also be enjoyed by the indigenous people of Kao.

"We thank Basotho for allowing us to invest in this beautiful country of theirs. To the people of this new village, I wish to say; let this settlement shine like the diamonds from the Kao Mine," Mr Cowley also said.

On behalf of the relocated families, 'Makeneuo Lebona could not hold back her excitement when she received keys to her new home and its lease.

Mrs Lebona said: "The mine has finally lived up to its promise. We are now living in beautiful glass houses which this area has never seen before."

Although Member of Parliament for the Motete Constituency Tumahole Lerafa welcomed the initiative, he was however, concerned about the fields and pastures the relocated communities



**GENEROUS:** The Kao Mountain Storm Diamonds Mine hands over residential homes to relocated

had to leave behind at their former village.

"It is a serious pending issue that the mine has to punctually address because these people survive mainly through subsistence farming and rearing of livestock."

For his part, the Minister of Mining Serialong Qoo was content that the Kao mine is one a few

operating in alignment with the country's laws and policies.

Kao-SMD is jointly owned by Namakwa Diamonds Limited (75%) and the Government of Lesotho (25%). SMD operates Kao Mine with a 19.8ha kimberlite pipe.

This is the largest kimberlite pipe in Lesotho.

The mine shows that it has a

remaining life span of 20 plus years of operation.

The operations are conventional open pit mining, with drilling and blasting, loading and hauling. The recovered diamonds are sold in Antwerp, Belgium on tender basis to a variety of rough diamond buyers including investors, traders and manufacturers.



# Lesotho, South Africa revive special bilateral relations

## INSIDE THE JBCC

Joint Bilateral Commission of Cooperation

- What it holds for Lesotho
- What it holds for South Africa
- The mutual benefits

## STAFF REPORTER

LESOTHO and South Africa have resuscitated special bilateral relations that were shelved almost 20 years since initiated by the then foreign affairs minister Tom Thabane between 1998 and 2002, while serving under then Prime Minister Pakalitha Mosisili's government of the Lesotho Congress for Democracy (LCD).

In its initial configuration, the Lesotho-RSA Joint Bilateral Commission of Cooperation (JBCC) aims to assist Lesotho graduate from its Least Developed Status to that of Developing Country by among others recognising that the two countries' economies are intertwined and should work towards increasing economic activities that will lead to the creation of sustainable jobs.

The cooperation, reached against the backdrop of Lesotho's unique situation as a landlocked country that is completely surrounded by South Africa, acknowledged that although the two economies differ vastly in relation to their GDP per capita, they are inextricably linked, hence the need to collaborate closely for the realisation of economic growth and poverty reduction and an agreement was also reached pertaining to the importance of a closer working relationship between the revenue agencies.

The ministerial council of ministers on JBCC on both countries held a three-day joint meeting in Maseru from November 18 – 21, after which foreign affairs ministers, 'Matšepo Ramakoae for Lesotho and South Africa's Dr Naledi Pandor signed documents of the discussions and the work plan.

The meeting recalled the first signing of the JBCC agreement in 2001 and also noted the existence of the follow up meetings, the last of which took place in April 2013 in South Africa but progress lapsed when the coalition government led by All Basotho Convention (ABC) under Prime Minister Thabane was toppled from power.

The recent meeting came after Lesotho's new Prime Minister Dr Moeketsi Majoro visited the South African President Cyril Ramaphosa in August to initiate talks on issues that concern the two countries.

The JBCC would be initially signed to constitute a basis for the ongoing process of consolidating relations between the two countries and would ensure cooperation between most government departments of both countries on a sectoral basis. One of the products of the JBCC was the bilateral coordinating committee established in 2008 in respect of the Maloti-Drakensberg Transfrontier Conservation and Development Area.

The essential elements of the agreement would include



**CORDIAL RELATIONS:** Between Prime Minister Dr Moeketsi Majoro and President Cyril Ramaphosa of South Africa

cooperation on and strengthen measures to counter money laundering in compliance with international standards. Closer coordination of the banking sectors, with specific emphasis on an electronic payment clearance system and closer cooperation in order to facilitate investment and trade between South Africa and Lesotho through joint research and analysis in relevant sectors would be fostered.

Some of the areas identified for closer cooperation include fiscal decentralisation, co-ordination on budget and fiscal analysis and public private partnerships, which would be discussed in more detail between the relevant technical experts.

A plan of action including capacity building would be developed and submitted to the Economic Cluster of the JBCC for perusal and support.

On the issue of Phase II of the Lesotho Highlands Water Project (LHWP), the council of ministers underscored the need to expedite implementation of the project, to identify tourism opportunities, to work towards creating renewable energy resources in their quest to meet future predicted energy demands and to work together towards finalising the amendment of the Extradition Treaty.

The ministers also stressed a need for the two sides (Defence and Police) to continue working together

to minimise cross border crimes, particularly stock and vehicle theft.

The JBCC agreement was also saluted for contributing to the regional integration agenda of the Southern African Development Community (SADC) and the African Union. Thanks to the agreement, South African Tourism reported in its annual report of 2011 that there was overall growth of 6.9% (395 466) of tourists arrival figures from Africa, with tourist arrivals from Lesotho growing by 19.7% (250 759) between 2010 and 2011.

The JBCC would then allow Lesotho and South Africa to share and exchange information and best practices in the field of tourism, to jointly market and promote investment opportunities in the two destinations, to facilitate study tours to their respective tourism institutions, to closely work to enhance tourist movement between the countries as well as to collaborate and share information related to their achievements at multi-lateral forums.

Apart from the core idea of helping Lesotho out of the least developed status, the basis of a need for special relations and cooperation was based on realisation that border control and the movement of persons between Lesotho and South Africa is inadequate and encourages a porous borderline.

In their communique following the 2009 meeting in South Africa,

the joint council of ministers said: "This Agreement would see to the implementation of hassle-free immigration formalities for citizens of both countries who were in possession of valid national passports. It would seek to facilitate the cross-border movement of citizens between the two countries by simplifying the mutual travel procedures for citizens of both countries as well as to deliver an improved service regarding the immigration clearance of citizens that routinely crossed the border.

"Members expressed concerns that the proposed border control mechanisms did not adequately address security concerns and the threat of illegal immigrants from other countries that used Lesotho as a gateway into South Africa."

The meeting heard how a large percentage of Lesotho's GDP was derived from migrant workers in South Africa and pledged to work towards full implementation of the Agreement on Free Movement of People, Goods and Services between the common borders. This dependency on South Africa was linked directly to the need to cross back and forth the SA border. The current process in terms of border control was not able to cope with the high volumes of travellers estimated about 28 000 people who cross the border between SA and Lesotho on a daily basis.

The recent Maseru meeting,

which also looked at the mutual interests including measures to facilitate cross border movement of people, goods and services at this time of COVID-19 pandemic, agreed to finalise arrangements for the festive season, particularly special arrangements and consideration for mineworkers and Lesotho Special Permit (LSP) holders to ensure smooth entry and departure and also that urgent action plan is required to address the challenges faced by scholar transport and delays in the movement of patients across the border. The meeting precedes the next meeting of the Council of Ministers which would come before anticipated Heads of States and Government meeting to be held during the second quarter of 2021.

Mrs Ramakoae commented that the relationship between the two countries should not be taken for granted and needed to be well taken care of, for the benefit and success of the two neighbours.

She expressed a hope that as long as the two sister countries kept the good relations between them, both their economies could be rebooted after the world was ravaged by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Dr Pandor said although it was almost seven years since the Council of Ministers met in Pretoria in 2013 that should be a lesson that there was a need for frequent political and diplomatic consultations at different levels.



## KABELO MASOABI

**BOTHA-BOTHE** - The Kao Mountain Storm Diamonds (MSD) Mine has spent M28 million on the construction of 15 new houses belonging to residents of Tiping who were relocated from their original homes to the new village of Porenki.

According to the mine's Chief Executive Officer Mohale Ralihariki, 33 other repositioned families have opted to be given cash compensation in order to build their own new houses in other locations within the area.

Porenki is a new neighbourhood established by the Kao Mine to accommodate relocated households that used to live on the land now utilised for Kao mining operations.

"The new houses are of higher standard compared to the old ones that these people used to live in. The houses have electricity and flat screen televisions among other luxuries. Water taps, toilets, kraals and roads have been constructed to meet basic needs of the new village," Mr Ralihariki explained on Wednesday, during the handing over ceremony of the new homes.

He said after four years of intensive consultations with the villagers and other stakeholders, the project has finally been completed.

"The mine has also realised the need to build a health clinic in the new village; a huge necessity for the people of Kao," he said.

Echoing similar sentiments, SMD board chairman Robert Cowley said the financial benefit the mine gets from selling diamonds harvested at the mine should also be enjoyed by the indigenous people of Kao.

# Kao Mine spends M28m on building new village



**GENEROUS:** The Kao Mountain Storm Diamonds (MSD) Mine hands over new homes to relocated communities in Kao

"We thank Basotho for allowing us to invest in this beautiful country of theirs. To the people of this new village, I wish to say: let this settlement shine like the diamonds from the Kao Mine," Mr Cowley also said.

On behalf of the relocated families, Makeneue Lebona could not hold back her excitement when she received keys to her new home and its lease.

Mrs Lebona said: "The mine

has finally lived up to its promise. We are now living in beautiful glass houses which this area has never seen before."

Although Member of Parliament for the Motete Constituency Tumahole Lerafa welcomed the initiative, he was however, concerned about the fields and pastures the relocated communities had to leave behind at their former village.

"It is a serious pending issue

that the mine has to punctually address because these people survive mainly through subsistence farming and rearing of livestock."

For his part, the Minister of Mining Serialong Qoo was content that the Kao mine is one of a few operating in alignment with the country's laws and policies.

Kao-SMD is jointly owned by Namakwa Diamonds Limited (75%) and the Government of Lesotho (25%). SMD operates Kao Mine with

a 19.8ha kimberlite pipe. This is the largest kimberlite pipe in Lesotho.

The mine shows that it has a remaining life span of 20 plus years of operation.

The operations are conventional open pit mining, with drilling and blasting, loading and hauling. The recovered diamonds are sold in Antwerp, Belgium on tender basis to a variety of rough diamond buyers including investors, traders and manufacturers.

## Reserve Bank says banking sector resilient to shocks ...but public debt is a threat to financial stability



Former South African president Jacob Zuma

The COVID-19 pandemic and the lockdowns to contain its spread have had a massive and negative impact on South Africa's fragile economy. But financial stability – which broadly means the ability of financial institutions to function and maintain credit and other financial services for the economy – remains "intact".

"Despite a challenging backdrop, financial stability is expected to remain intact. The emergence of the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic has dramatically worsened the economic outlook and led to financial market dislocations in the first half of 2020. However, the financial system has continued to function effectively and financial markets have since stabilised," the Financial Stability Review (FSR) said.

This edition of the FSR had a big focus on South Africa's commercial banking sector. The six biggest banks in the land, accounting for more than 90% of the sector's assets – FNB, Absa, Standard Bank, Nedbank, Investec and Capitec – were subjected to a solvency stress test.

Three scenarios applied to the exercise: a pre-COVID-19 baseline scenario, a COVID-19 baseline scenario and a stress scenario, the latter sort of taking the form of the pandemic on steroids, with more severe downturns than those

already expected. The South African Reserve Bank (SARB) sees the economy contracting 8% this year with pre-COVID levels of output not being reached for at least another three years.

"South Africa's systemically important banks are expected to remain adequately capitalised, even in the face of a downside scenario... even under a more severe macroeconomic downturn than is currently projected, these banks are expected to maintain an aggregate level of capital above the minimum regulatory requirement," the FSR said.

It also noted that the banking sector is still in the black.

"Although there has been a significant decline in operating profit following the lockdown, the banking sector remained profitable as of August 2020. The banking sector's operating profits have declined sharply following the lockdown in March 2020, to levels last reported eight years ago. In August 2020, operating profits were 44% lower than at the same time in 2019."

In that year, the six biggest banks paid R59.5-billion in dividends and R1.6-billion in cash bonuses. Withholding dividends and bonuses "is expected to have a material impact on bank capital levels in 2020", the FSR said.

The really big threat to financial stability lies with the government and its ballooning debt.

"The interconnectedness between the financial sector and the sovereign has emerged as a major threat to financial stability in South Africa," the FSR said. Public debt is expected to reach 82% of GDP in 2020 and to stabilise at 95% in 2026. A decade of low economic growth and a soaring public sector wage bill to fill the trough of former president Jacob Zuma's patronage machine – not to mention shoddy governance and outright looting – are ostrich-sized birds coming home to roost.

The document noted that domestic banks hold 23% of government bond holdings while pension funds have 29%.

"Consequently, the deterioration in public finances has adverse effects on the perceived creditworthiness of financial institutions themselves... This channel also poses risks to the government because, if domestic financial institutions face stresses which force them to reduce their lending, government may face challenges in funding itself," the FSR said.

In short, the financial sector is joined at the hip with the public sector, and the two will go down together. BM/DM

**JOHANNESBURG** - South Africa's main commercial banks are well capitalised and can withstand further shocks, the South African

Reserve Bank said on Tuesday in its biannual Financial Stability Review. The big risk to financial stability is soaring public debt.



# Work Ethic Lessons from Dwayne “The Rock” Johnson

The reason why I am harping on work ethic these days is that very soon, I will be sharing some valuable lessons from Singapore's economic success story that Lesotho can extract a few insights from. Our country is nothing like Singapore, to point the obvious, but the one thing we have in common is that we are all human and if there is one thing that all human beings, regardless of race, culture, creed, gender etc, have in spades is potential. Basotho theoretically have the same potential as Singaporeans to create something of value that will elevate us and our country out of poverty.

But let us make it personal and draw some inspiration from popular culture and who best to embody the best of popular culture than Dwayne “The Rock” Johnson, right?

I first read about Dwayne “The Rock” Johnson in the South African edition of Entrepreneur Magazine. This appeared in the September 2017 issue so yes, the back copies are the gift that keeps on giving. Some of you may have been exposed to The Rock during his time as a wrestler on WWE. How a wrestler parlays that kind of fame to create an acting career worth hundreds of millions is a question that should keep business schools willing to explore these unusual success stories busy for the next few decades to come.

The Rock is not necessarily the most talented actor out there, but he is getting more and bigger roles all the time. And now, he has my profound respect for developing an incredible work ethic that all of us can learn from. His current net worth is estimated at \$190 million according to Entrepreneur's Nadine Todd.

In his own words (courtesy of Instagram), here is his very doable formula for success and staying power in a notoriously fickle industry:

“I am up at 4 a.m. daily and putting in the hard work that I already know my competition is not willing to do. If they are willing to get up at 4, then you bet your a\*\* I am getting up at 3. And if they are willing to get up at 3 a.m., then well...I will be getting up at 2:59. I do not pretend to do it. I do it. Daily. It is

my anchor and will always be my edge over my competition.”

Another powerful illustration of this principle comes from a towering figure in the global entertainment industry. Her alter ego is Sasha Fierce. Some know her as Mrs Carter. Others address her as Queen Bey. The one and only Beyonce Knowles. Now she is the ultimate embodiment of “outworking

## BUSINESS UNUSUAL

MOTHEPA NDUMO



your peers” and she has been doing it consistently since she was a child.

Google “Beyonce Work Ethic” and you will be amazed. Her prowess is acknowledged in diverse sectors, from Management to Sports. For example, there is an article from Right Management titled, “Leadership Lessons from Beyonce Knowles” and ESPN even has a piece titled, “The Athleticism of Beyonce”.

Very few entertainers, dead or living, can lay claim to that.

The value of people like The Rock and Beyonce is not just in pure entertainment; most importantly, we can glean life lessons from the way that they lead their professional lives.

In an earlier edition of Entrepreneur Magazine, December 2016 to be exact, couple and business partners, Doug and Polly White wrote, “There is no substitute for hard, hard work. There never has been and there never will be. At the counter of success, there are no discounts. The price must be paid, in full and in advance, every time. No exceptions.”

I read plenty of articles about how to work less and still earn incredible amounts of money and garner accolades, in fact, they seem to be all the rage these days. These hack culture pieces are terribly misleading.

I know for a fact that the amount of effort that you put into any endeavour will directly correlate with the rewards that you will reap. One may however raise a counterargument to that and say, but I know many hardworking people (domestic workers, mine workers underground, agricultural workers, manual labourers) who are not millionaires, so what gives?

Teachers work incredibly hard but nowhere reap rewards that are commensurate with their hard work. So, what is it?

Is it about the value that the market attaches to particular services?

“

Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters, since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving (Colossians 3:23-24, NIV)

Is it about the numbers and scarcity of a particular set of skills? It is not an easy question to answer and it goes to very fundamental questions about the prevailing economic system and how it allocates resources and rewards. However, hard work remains evergreen regardless of economic system.

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# The Hassle Blue Print

## ...rules for entrepreneurship

Ok, right. Today we are going to be a bit direct. We will analyse Mpinane's entrepreneurship mind-set. Get me right, listening is a skill, we are not going to analyse her business. No, that's a topic for another day...or year (as 2020 is about to come to an end).

Why is the right entrepreneurial mind-set important?

I will pause for a few seconds and let you find the answer yourself...

Because everything starts in the mind. You see everything people have or do not have all started in the mind and one needs a certain set of mind skills to be a successful entrepreneur. We call that set of mind skills, the mind-set.

Today is your lucky day, it is my birthday so I am in a good mood, and I am giving out a special gift. I am starting a series of Entrepreneur rules, which have stood the test of time and proven to be effective. These set of rules have been used by local and international millionaires before.

Ready? Let's get down to it:

### Rule Number 1

**Love your freedom, but love your responsibility also**  
Mpinane - a strikingly beautiful young woman had everything going well for her...Or she thought she had. First, she was married to a successful doctor, thus married to a luxurious middle class life.

When she lost all that, her body moved on from that life but her ego stayed behind. When she started her own business and it became successful, it was always easy to relapse to her old middle class life.

Why? Because the ego simply pulled the body back - the danger of letting the ego rule you.

The entrepreneurial energy or instinct is very intelligent.

Once you are in business or about to be in business, you get that yearn for freedom. The universe is telling you that a bit of freedom must impact your entrepreneurial journey. However, the universe wants you to be free from your ego, which normally gets stuck in the old life. Not for you to have a nice life out there.

Mpinane felt this yearn for freedom and mistook it for a call to enjoy herself.

## MIND CULTIVATOR

MR MASHAPE MOSALA



So she packed her bags, took her pink lipstick and then whizzed off to Durban. She enjoyed sausage, a bit of sunset and cocktails. She later returned to a company on its knees. Break free from your past life, break free from your ego and take responsibility for your new life.

### Rule Number 2

**You are not special**

Mpinane, in just three months, turned a M5 000 capital into a M20 000 monthly turnover. She felt she was a genius, the master planner, the most blessed, the...geez! She was lying to

herself. The truth is that Mpinane was just an ordinary 28 year-old woman who was lucky to get mentorship from the best, hence her budding success. Then she celebrated too early. In fact there was nothing to celebrate in the first place.

If you have a brilliant business idea, the world does not give a rat about it, or how brilliant it is. Start working it and we will recognise you, make a few millions then we will start clapping hands for your brilliant business idea. And for the record, know that somebody has already thought about that brilliant idea of yours and implemented it.

If you are that intelligent young man, well, you will keep being a nobody until that little intelligence manifests into a business. Then we might consider recognising you. So snap out of it. Stop day dreaming and start working hard. The worst idea in the world executed by a pro will be a better business than the world best idea executed by an amateur.

### Rule 3

**Prepare for sacrifice**

Do most entrepreneurs fail because of bad business ideas? No!

Lack of intelligence or knowledge? No!

Underestimating the sacrifices that they needed to make in order to succeed. In most cases, absolutely!

To succeed, set your expectations to your most realistic setting. Do it. Right now. And be prepared for the fight. Do not be like Mpinane; she never sacrificed anything for her business. She never sacrificed the lavish lifestyle and champagnes. When you know what you are in for, you are prepared. You won't come back from Durban to find your business on its knees. When you are prepared to give it your all, you will do so and you will definitely come out better at the other end. It's more rewarding than anything else (particularly more than the Durban cocktails).

But you have to accept that along the way, you will have many late nights, you will lose many friends and partners. Be excited friend, you live a small portion of your life like others won't, so that you can live the rest of your life like others can't...

(Shaking head in disgust) This is a lazy generation. Our time is up. More rules next time.



## This is Lesotho...

### ... In News



The Minister of Water Affairs Nkaku Kabi

New water metres and pipes will be installed in villages situated along the Metolong dam and illegally connected water pipes to their homes illegally.

The move is meant to stop unnecessary losses in water bills by the Water and Sewerage Company (WASCO).

This was revealed by the Minister of Water, Nkaku Kabi when addressing the National Assembly on Wednesday.

The villages in question he said had tampered with water pipes from the Metolong dam and illegally connected water to their homes, getting water free of charge in the process. Mr Kabi said going the court route would be a long process for WASCO, hence the decision to legally connect the water pipes to the relevant homes so that the water used is paid for.

"Lesotho has a lot of water in the Southern African region since many rivers running into other countries originate from the country," he said.

Nonetheless, the minister warned that many water sources and wetlands are in danger of vanishing due to overgrazing of livestock as well as failure to properly look after those water sources.

Mr Kabi also remarked that big dams in Lesotho like the 'Muela, Katse and Mohale could be filled up with silt soon due to soil erosion from the soil washed away during torrential rains.

"This means that if these dams are filled up with silt, it will be expensive for the government to clean them up," he said.

Lesotho has an agreement with South Africa to transfer water to the neighbouring country for the next 50 years as per the treaty that was signed in 1986.

### ... In Politics



The Minister of Home Affairs Motlaletoa Letsosa

The Minister of Home Affairs, Motlaletoa Letsosa has described the Department of Immigration Services as the image of the country.

Addressing the National Assembly on Monday, Mr Letsosa said the department among others provides essential services especially to the international world. He said a few days after his appointment as the home affairs minister, he received a report from the U.S. on Lesotho's status on 'trafficking in person' as well as on citizenship.

The report he said showed that Lesotho was not handling the issue of trafficking in persons accordingly.

"Lesotho therefore dropped to the third tier on the list of the countries which are listed based on their fight against trafficking in persons," he said, describing the third tier as a 'junk status'.

He said third tier simply means that Lesotho's long-time friends are now on the verge of dumping her.

After scrutinizing the report, he instructed his Principal Secretary to restructure the ministry in a way that will move Lesotho from the 'junk status'.

He showed that major steps which were undertaken included drafting of the trafficking in persons' bill, which was adopted by the House last week.

Among others, the ministry he said also transferred some of its staff as part of improving service delivery in the immigration department.

## MoneyMatters make it count

Cybercriminals are always looking for ways to trick you. Know what types of online scams to look out for.

### Key loggers

Did you know that it is possible to record every single key you press on your keyboard? With the right code, scammers can identify your usernames and passwords by tracking the keystrokes you have used on particular sites, hence this online scam is known as key logger. It can be transferred to your device through an email attachment or memory stick. Keep your security software up-to-date and never open unknown e-mail attachments.

### Phishing

When you get an email from your bank, or a similar institution, how do you know it's legit? That's an important question to ask yourself because scammers can harvest your PIN, passwords, and account details with one simple trick. They send an email that looks like it comes from your bank with a link to your Internet Banking profile. When you follow the link, it's a fake webpage. Unsuspecting victims input all their details and voila! The scammers have everything they need to steal from you. Never follow links to secure banking environments from emails. We promise that we'll never put it in our communications with you.

### SMShing

As the name suggests, SMShing is much like Phishing but occurs via text message on mobile devices. In these cases, you'll get a scary message supposedly from your bank telling you that your credit card has been stolen or a large sum of money has been withdrawn from your account.

It will include a link for you to follow to input your PIN and other sensitive information in some kind of "reporting" environment. Don't do it. If you're concerned about your accounts, phone the lost or stolen cards helpline.

### Deposit refund scam

## Types of online scams



If anybody ever contacts you to tell you that they've "accidentally" paid money into your account, you should be suspicious. Scammers provide a fake "proof of payment" and ask you to refund their money. You will pay it, believing that the money will clear in your account soon. Of course, it never will. Always double-check these deposits with the bank.

### Vishing

Vishing is a combination of the words "Voice" and "Phishing".

This is when scammers pretend to be somebody from the bank and acquire your private information through telephonic

manipulation. They will pretend that they are phoning to confirm your personal or bank details or to let you know they've detected something wrong with your bank account. Never give your PIN or any personal information over the phone. Our bankers will never expect you to supply that kind of information telephonically.

### Top tip to avoid online scams

Make it a rule to never share personal banking information with anyone and always check the website address and SSL (padlock/security) status of your online banking environment before inputting any information at all.

## Out of The Ordinary

# One-man smiley face

## ... Singapore activist faces fine over sign protest



### JOHN GEDDIE

Singapore is set to charge an activist with staging a one-man protest without a permit over an incident

in which he held up a sign bearing a crudely drawn smiley face outside a police station.

Police told Jolovan Wham, 40, who has had several run-ins with authorities in the city-state,

which tightly controls public assembly, the media and free speech, recently that he would be formally charged in court.

The charge relates to a March incident in which Wham demonstrated his support for a young climate activist who said he had been questioned by police over a similar protest days previous. Wham posted a picture of himself holding the sign on his social media accounts.

The civil rights campaigner, who has already served two brief stints in jail this year, would be charged under the Public Order Act, which regulates assemblies and processions in public places, according to the charge sheet Wham posted on Twitter.

He faces a fine of up to R60,000.00 (\$5,000 =US\$3,719).

Singapore police confirmed Wham had been notified of charges but did not immediately have further comment.

"These charges against me only show how absurd the situation has become," Wham said in a text message, adding he planned to plead not guilty.

"Calling what I did an assembly is an abuse of the English language. How can one man standing in public for a few seconds for a photo op be a threat to public order?" Wham said.

Amnesty International Southeast Asia researcher Rachel Chhoa-Howard said the incident was "yet another example of targeted action" to clamp down on Wham's "peaceful activism".

Reuters



# Metro HEALTHY Living

## Letšeng Mine intervenes as drought adversely impacts lives



The Letšeng Mine located in Mokhotlong

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**MASERU** - The 2019/20 season marks the third consecutive year of inadequate crop production due to severe drought conditions brought about by climate change, the Improving Adaptive Capacity of Vulnerable and Food Insecure Populations in Lesotho (IACOV) has said.

This, according to IACOV was preceded

by an 80 per cent decline in all cereal crops in the 2018/19 season, with maize production dropping by 70 per cent, sorghum by 98 per cent and wheat by 75 per cent.

In a bid to help improve the food and nutrition security of the communities in Pae-la-itlhatsoa, Mokhotlong, the Letšeng Diamond Mine this week donated seeds and food parcels to 40 households living in nine villages in that area.

Handing over the donation, the Letšeng Mine's Chief Operations Officer, Matookane Thinyane said when there are huge reductions in harvest; farming families consume less, resulting in less income, which in turn adversely affects food security and nutrition.

Mr Thinyane said in many rural settings, communities work on agricultural farms, often on a seasonal basis.

"Such employment opportunities

dissolve if certain crops cannot be grown as a result of climate change," he said.

The inclusion of seeds in the donation was aimed at encouraging the communities to engage in income generating activities.

"The donation of the seeds and food parcels is a departure from Letšeng Diamond's normal policy approach, where the focus is on sustainable projects, with the capacity to generate income and benefit the entire community, instead of individuals, in order to join national efforts in response to the COVID-19 pandemic," Mr Thinyane said.

That, he said was also a sign of their commitment to continue supporting and working with the Pae-la-itlhatsoa community on various community projects and activities like the water and sanitation project earmarked for the village of Ha Moko in 2021.

The mine has continuous engagement with the communities through the area chiefs and the community counsellors on urgent issues that need immediate attention.

There are quarterly public meetings held between the mine and communities living in the nine villages to among others discuss general issues, concerns, suggestions, proposals and complaints.

There is also a formal grievance management system, through which the communities lodge their complaints to the mine on any issue.

Lesotho is not immune from the negative effects of climate change. As a result of the observed climatic trends of recurrent and prolonged droughts, agricultural productivity has steadily declined in recent years with adverse impact on food and nutrition security, and overall economic performance in Lesotho.

## Leribe records highest GBV cases – Minister

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**MASERU** – Since the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic in the Lesotho, emerging data reveals that Leribe has the highest recorded cases of all types of violence against both women and girls, the Minister of Gender, Youth, Sports and Recreation Likeleli Tapane has shown.

As the world retreated indoors due to the lockdown measures employed to curb the proliferation of the deadly virus, she said reports show a trend of exploding cases of violence perpetrated against women countrywide.

Violence against women is recognised as one of the most persistent and devastating human rights violations of the current times, an issue discussed every day of the week.

Ms Tampane said a lot needs to be done to prioritise addressing the issue of gender based violence (GBV) in COVID-19 response and recovery initiatives.

Launching the 16-days of activism against GBV on Monday in Maseru, the minister invited all to take action to support the 16 days of activism for the no violence

against women and children campaign.

She said GBV includes all forms of violence against people based on their gender, or violence that affects people of a particular gender disproportionately.

Violence against women and girls, she noted, is one of the most widespread and devastating human rights violations, which remains largely unreported due to silence, stigma and shame surrounding it.

"GBV causes severe harm to families and communities, which is why the designated 16 days of activism provide an opportunity for the community to band together to reject violence and encourage conversations about preventing it," she said.

She added: "There is a lot of work to be done to restore balance and equality, to make communities safe for all people and everybody has a role to play in championing gender equality and preventing violence against women."

The 16 days of activism against GBV is an annual international campaign that kicks off on November 25, the International Day for Elimination of Violence Against Women and runs until 10 December – the Human Rights Day.



**CONCERNED:** The Minister of Gender, Youth, sports and Recreation Likeleli Tampane



## Enjoy Ginger

The volatile oils in ginger have long made it a useful herbal remedy for nasal and chest congestion. Pour 2 cups of boiling water over a 1-inch piece of peeled, grated ginger; steep for 10 minutes; and strain. Add a pinch or two of cayenne pepper to the water and drink as needed.

## Chest Pain

If you have chest pain or pressure that lasts more than a couple of minutes, or if it comes back, it's time to call ambulance. You shouldn't try to drive yourself or a loved one with these symptoms. The ambulance has special equipment and trained people who can help you more quickly.

## Body Cavities

The cavities, or spaces, of the body contain the internal organs, or viscera. The two main cavities are called the ventral and dorsal cavities. The ventral is the larger cavity and is subdivided into two parts (thoracic and abdominopelvic cavities) by the diaphragm, a dome-shaped respiratory muscle.

## TO YOUR GOOD HEALTH

# Prioritise your happiness

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Local private psychologist Libakiso Mofana, says happiness is often thought of as any positive emotion, and words that people often use to describe being happy include joy, gratitude, delight as well as enjoyment.

She says being happy is important because a happy person is more likely to have healthier lifestyle habits including a healthier diet, getting regular exercise and even better sleep.

Ms Mofana says happy people tend to live longer, because their perception of pain may be lessened; especially if they have chronic pain conditions like arthritis.

She further shows that a happy person enjoys more success across multiple areas of life besides health, adding that these areas

include marriage, friendship, work performance and mental health.

People she notes start to achieve more of their goals and find greater satisfaction in their lives when they are happy.

Despite its personal nature, she says one can often recognise happiness in others, just as other people can recognise it in him or her.

"The problem is; there is no a one-size-fits-all formula for happiness, that is because it is a subjective experience, what makes you happy, may not necessarily make others happy," she indicates.

Because people are all unique, she says what exactly brings one joy will be unique too, though there are some similarities.

Taking responsibilities, she says means one is going to do what is necessary to experience more joy in life, adding that positive expectations can help from the



experiences into good ones.

She notes: "It is impossible to be happy when you do not allow

yourself to be who you truly are.

When you try to mould yourself into who someone else wants you

to be, or who you think you should be, you are disrupting yourself and your happiness."

**LINEO MABEKEBEKE**  
health@maserumetro.com

**QUTHING** – The United Nations (UN) Resident Coordinator Salvador Niyonzima says malnutrition cripples the health of children in Lesotho, often times even leading to death.

Speaking at the Maximum Intervention Programme (MIP) launch ceremony, which was held this week in Quthing, Mr Niyonzima said malnutrition is a problem that can be solved and prevented if all continue to combine efforts together in order to achieve a sustainable reduction of the problem in Lesotho.

The government and the UN in Lesotho officially launched the MIP with the aim of enhancing food and nutrition security in the country.

The MIP is supported by the Renewed Efforts Against Child Hunger (REACH), an inter-agency (FAO, WHO, UNICEF, WFP and IFAD) partnership that aims to support the government by promoting a country-owned and country-led, multi-sectorial approach to addressing malnutrition.

The nutrition situation remains a great concern in Lesotho.

According to the 2018 Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey, stunting rates among children under the age of five remain high at 34.5%.

## Malnutrition cripples health of children in Lesotho



The United Nations Resident Coordinator to Lesotho Salvador Niyonzima

Micronutrient deficiencies are rife among children aged six to 59 months, 52% of these have an iron deficiency/anaemia. Over 27% of girls and women and 14 % of boys and men in the 15-49 age range are

also anaemic.

The MIP was officially launched in Quthing, Qomo-qomong, in the village of Ha Ramosoeru where members of the community were provided with educational materials

guiding them on vegetable production, with the aim of promoting dietary diversity.

The community was also provided with information on child feeding during COVID-19, as well as

on hand and respiratory hygiene.

The Programme will be implemented in four districts with high stunting rates, including Mokhotlong, Botha-Bothe, Thaba-Tseka and Quthing.

It will support the diversification diets in hard-to-reach areas and among the most vulnerable populations by introducing community-based promotion and production of highly nutritious foods.

The UN in Lesotho recognises that nutrition is central to the sustainable development agenda and that there is need to act in a coherent and collective manner in terms of policies, actions, staffing and resources.

Several initiatives have been undertaken by the leadership in the country to raise awareness on the importance of nutrition. The national policy on food and nutrition was endorsed by the government in 2016.

Furthermore, His Majesty King Letsie III remains an advocate on issues of nutrition and the prevention of malnutrition and stunting as the African Union (AU) Champion on Nutrition, as well as the Food and Agricultural Organisation (FAO)'s Special Ambassador on Nutrition and the World Bank's Human Capital Ambassador.



# How can you trust what you are told about COVID-19?

In the past 10 months, as Covid-19 has swept the globe, the internet and media have also been ablaze with stories, reports and ever-changing guidelines on how to stay safe in a world that appears to be out of control. But what should we believe and what can we trust? As importantly, how do we spot 'fake news' and misinformation? In this special advisory, a collective of over 20 of SA's leading doctors and scientists offer their advice.

Living in a digital world means that we have access to the latest information on just about any subject. While this can be powerful and empowering, it can also be harmful. Access to information online is empowering because we can stay abreast of the latest knowledge about Covid-19 and can share useful data that, in the interests of public health, can help people change their behaviour and stay safe.

However, it's increasingly difficult to know how to sift out the truth from the masses of lies, misinformation and myths that are also all over the internet and social media, in an environment where the phrase "fake news" is applied to anything someone does not agree with, and truth is a political and ideological tool.

As scientists and clinicians, we are in a challenging position with Covid-19. We are discovering how to approach this novel virus in real time, just as it creates chaos and devastates communities all over the world. We still don't know enough about why the virus manifests so severely in some people and not others; whether some people can be infected more than once, and what the lasting impacts of Covid-19 are on the body.

Scientific and medical advice around Covid-19 has changed since we first began our steep learning curve in early 2020.

To begin with, public health advice focused on physical distancing and hand hygiene. As the peer-reviewed, evidence-based, scientifically sound research emerged, we also began recommending that people wear masks, with South Africa one of the first countries to recommend universal mask-wearing outside of Asia.

The practice was already common in many east Asian countries, so was more easily adopted there.

Evidence is clear that the Covid bundle works

This bundle is a collection of practices such as increasing ventilation by opening windows, physical distancing, wearing a mask in crowded spaces and sanitising your hands, which reduces the number of viral particles you might inhale.

Debates and disagreements are usual in the world of scientific and medical research. We welcome debate among colleagues, and we have rigorous processes like peer review, ethics committees, regulatory oversight, safety boards and double-blind research methods that help to inform our discoveries and ensure that any biases are brought to light.

These processes are not always perfect – the sciences are not immune to fraudsters, media-hungry charlatans, and reckless outsized egos – but agreement on what we know tends to be a self-correcting, iterative process. And, in general, debate and dissent are not suppressed or controlled.

Over the last few months however, while frontline health workers have been risking their lives (and many healthcare workers have died in South Africa, as have some of their family members) to treat people ill with Covid-19, we have been dismayed at the spread of accusations that we "know nothing about this virus".

This is simply untrue; a huge amount of new knowledge has emerged since January 2020, and this has built on substantial prior knowledge about this class of virus, as well as the novel coronaviruses responsible for Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) and Middle East Respiratory Syndrome (MERS).

This improved knowledge has had positive effects: For example, the survival rate of people with Covid-19 has improved.

We are even more dismayed at the extraordinary claims that some researchers have falsified evidence or misled public health officials around the best ways to handle this pandemic. The scientists and clinicians in this advisory group live in a world where we exchange data, new research, hypotheses, disagreement, controversy and wild ideas every day.

In fact, research thrives on these debates and disagreements. We have active discussion groups on WhatsApp, where we discuss and critique everything from the government's approach to lockdown to new understandings of immunology. We represent a wide array of disciplines, which stimulates interesting and challenging discussions, and our research and other collaborations means we are



wired into scientific debates from every corner of the globe.

We do not suppress evidence-based dissent. We have seen this during the Covid-19 pandemic already – some substandard or even fraudulent "research results" were published but soon called out and corrected or withdrawn.

There is a strong incentive for scientists to not remain quiet when they encounter poor research. Apart from scientific ethics, one can gain a lot (recognition, research grants, promotion) from publishing valid evidence to the contrary.

When scientific consensus supports a measure such as mask wearing, this is not based on suppressing dissent, but simply expresses the fact that the best available scientific data indicates that wearing masks in public spaces, especially when indoors and when gathering in groups, helps to slow transmission of Covid-19 and protects people who may be particularly vulnerable to infection.

This is not controversial; it is established science and it is best practice.

It is not up for debate.

It is not only pointless to set up debates about this, but it is also an actively harmful fake controversy. We advocate wearing masks, not because we want to make life difficult

for the public, but because we are doing our best to save lives and ensure that the virus is contained in the absence of biomedical preventive measures, including prophylaxis and vaccines.

Truth and fiction

There is a famous adage that journalism students are taught: if you have one person telling you it's raining and one person telling you it's sunny, you do not just quote them both. Instead, you look out the window and find out for yourself which person is telling the truth.

In this digital age, there are many people claiming it is raining outside when all the scientific and medical evidence tells us it's sunny. Ordinary people don't know who to believe, especially when some of those promoting the lies are people with resources and power and hidden agendas. Rumours and misinformation spread quickly on platforms like Facebook or in WhatsApp message groups.

We, as scientific and medical professionals, have a duty to ensure that we communicate scientific fact properly and make this information as widely accessible as possible for all to see. We are bound by professional ethics to make sure that anything we communicate can be defended by evidence, and we try to be transparent about this.

When we don't know something, we are honour-bound to admit it. And when we do know, we have a responsibility to ensure that we disseminate these findings far and wide in a way that is easily digestible to a wide array of audiences.

This is the essence of public health: to use our knowledge to communicate to the populace and to develop strategies and behaviours to keep people safe and well.

We also have a duty to speak truth to power

Where a government makes poor choices or lapses into secrecy and does not communicate the reasons behind decisions, professionals must call these behaviours out. Where senior media personalities or advocacy groups put us all in danger with misinformation, they must be held to account.

Control of this virus, in some ways more than ever before, demands a collective sense of responsible community – this means we must be critical of those hiding behind cries of "groupthink", conspiracy theories, or reckless and inexpert interpretation of data.

Scientists who collude with governments to legitimise unscientific approaches have been a feature of many country responses across the globe and need to be challenged. DM/MC

## 2020 EU Health Award

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on  
**healthy lifestyles**  
for Cities  
and Schools





# IATA Travel Pass Key to reopening borders safely

GENEVA - The International Air Transport Association (IATA) announced that it is in the final development phase of the IATA Travel Pass, a digital health pass that will support the safe reopening of borders.

Governments are beginning to use testing as a means of limiting the risks of COVID-19 importation when re-opening their borders to travellers without quarantine measures. IATA Travel Pass will manage and verify the secure flow of necessary testing or vaccine information among governments, airlines, laboratories and travellers.

IATA is calling for systematic COVID-19 testing of all international travellers and the information flow infrastructure needed to enable this must support:

Governments with the means to verify the authenticity of tests and the identity of those presenting the test certificates.

Airlines with the ability to provide accurate information to their passengers on test requirements and verify that a passenger meets the requirements for travel.

Laboratories with the means to issue digital certificates to passengers that will be recognized by governments, and;

Travellers with accurate information on test requirements, where they can get tested or vaccinated, and the means to securely

convey test information to airlines and border authorities.

"Today borders are double locked. Testing is the first key to enable international travel without quarantine measures.

The second key is the global information infrastructure needed to securely manage, share and verify test data matched with traveller identities in compliance with border control requirements. That's the job of IATA Travel Pass. We are bringing this to market in the coming months to also meet the needs of the various travel bubbles and public health corridors that are starting operation," said Alexandre de Juniac, IATA's Director General and CEO (pictured).

IATA Travel Pass incorporates four open sourced and interoperable modules which can be combined for an end-to-end solution:

Global registry of health requirements – enables passengers to find accurate information on travel, testing and eventually vaccine requirements for their journey.

Global registry of testing / vaccination centres – enables passengers to find testing centres and labs at their departure location which meet the standards for testing and vaccination requirements of their destination.

Lab App – enables authorized labs and test centres to securely share test and vaccination certificates with passengers.

Contactless Travel App – enables passengers to (1) create a 'digital passport', (2) receive test and vaccination certificates and verify that they are sufficient for their itinerary, and (3) share testing or vaccination certificates with airlines and authorities to facilitate travel. This app can also be used by travellers to manage travel documentation digitally and seamlessly throughout their journey, improving travel experience.

IATA and International Airlines Group (IAG) have been working together in the

development of this solution and will undertake a trial to demonstrate that this platform combined with COVID-19 testing can reopen international travel and replace quarantine.

IATA Travel Pass Key to reopening borders safely

The airline industry demands a cost effective, global, and modular solution to safely restart travel. IATA Travel Pass is based on industry standards and IATA's proven experience in managing information flows around complex travel requirements.

IATA's Timatic is used by most airlines to manage compliance with passport and visa regulations and will be the base for the global registry and verification of health requirements.

IATA's One ID initiative was endorsed by a resolution at its 75th Annual General Meeting in 2019 to securely facilitate travel processes with a single identity token. It is the base for the IATA Contactless Travel App for identity verification that will also manage the test and vaccination certificates.

"Our main priority is to get people traveling again safely. In the immediate term that means giving governments confidence that systematic COVID-19 testing can work as a replacement for quarantine requirements. And that will eventually develop into a vaccine program. The IATA Travel Pass is a solution for both. And we have built it using a modular approach based on open source standards to facilitate interoperability.

It can be used in combination with other providers or as a standalone end-to-end solution. The most important thing is that it is responsive to industry's needs while enabling a competitive market," said Nick Careen, IATA's Senior Vice President, Airport, Passenger, Cargo and Security.

The first cross-border IATA Travel Pass pilot is scheduled for later this year and the launch slated for quarter one 2021.

## Recipe Of The Week

### Stuffed Peppers Pasta Casserole

Inspired by the classic stuffed bell peppers dish, this comforting pasta casserole holds all those flavors inside.

#### Ingredients

- 1 med. yellow onion
- 1 lg. green bell pepper
- 1 lg. orange bell pepper
- 1 lb ground beef
- 1/3 cup tomato sauce
- 5-6 leaves of basil
- 1 1/2 tsp oregano
- Salt
- Fresh cracked black pepper
- 1/3 to 1 lb dry farfalle pasta
- 1 1/2 cups shredded Cheddar-Jack cheese mix

#### Instructions

Cook pasta according to the package directions, drain and set aside. Preheat oven to 350 and

lightly grease a casserole dish. (2 1/2 - 3 quart baking dish will work.)

Slice onions and peppers thin. Preheat a large cooking pan over medium heat. Add some vegetable oil, onions and peppers. Cook veggies until softened.

Add ground beef to the pan. Break it up as much as possible, cover, and cook for a few minutes. Stir well breaking up clumps of beef. Add tomato sauce, salt and pepper. Mix and continue to cook, covered, until beef is done. Stir in oregano and chopped basil. Stir in pasta and transfer the mixture into a prepared baking dish. Spread shredded cheese all over the top and bake for 15-17 minutes.



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# Metro **OBITUARIES + IN MEMORIAM**

Tributes to family and friends

## Nomasonto Maswanganyi Kwaito star Mshoza dies at 37

**DIED, 37.** South African kwaito Nomasonto Maswanganyi, who is popularly known as Mshoza died on November 19 at the Far East Rand Hospital in Johannesburg, from diabetes related complications.

The news of Mshoza's passing was announced by the friend of the late star - media personality, Khanyi Mbau.

Announcing her passing in a tweet, the Southern African Music Rights Organisation (SAMRO) said: "Yet another loss to the music industry. It is with great sadness that we acknowledge the passing of kwaito star Nomasonto Maswanganyi, affectionately known as Mshoza."

Maswanganyi's manager, Thanduxolo Jindela, also released a statement on the Kwathole Conexion Facebook page confirming her death.

The post read: "It is with great sadness to announce the death of Nomasonto 'Mshoza' Maswanganyi.

"The Kortes' hitmaker succumbed peacefully in the early hours of this morning (Nov 19). She was 37.

"She will be deeply missed as an ultimate entertainer who loved being on stage. Not only did she radiate star quality, but Mshoza was a media darling."

Jindela also confirmed that the kwaito hit-maker had died from complications stemming from diabetes, a condition which she had been living with for years.

"She was rushed to hospital as she suffered from diabetes which was serious and it caused her to go in and out of hospital. Her passing comes as a shock because she is the queen of kwaito who is loved by all fans in the country," Jindela also said.

When news of her passing broke, celebrities and friends from all over South Africa sent tributes to the star on social media.

Close friend and media personality, Zola Hashatsi said: "All we are left with are memories. Thank you for showing me how to



live. I will miss you and always love you dear friend Nomasonto 'Mshoza' Maswanganyi."

Others like Babes Wodumo, Boity, Jub Jub and Lerato Kganyago also penned tributes.

Mourners congregated at Bassline, Newtown for the fallen kwaito star's memorial service on Wednesday.

In attendance were fans, family and friends such as Mbau and

Lasizwe.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, only a small number of people were allowed at the service with the memorial being streamed online.

It's never easy to say goodbye to a

legend, and most South Africans and the entire world are still stunned by Mshoza's sudden passing.

"Although she had been on the scene for as long as many can remember, it feels as if we have lost the 37-year-old far too soon," some of the tributes showed.

The late kwaito star had been married three times since her first marriage to Mpumalanga

“

Yet another loss to the music industry. It is with great sadness that we acknowledge the passing of kwaito star Nomasonto Maswanganyi, affectionately known as Mshoza

businessman Jacob Mnisi, in 2007.

It was Mnisi who called off the wedding in 2011, accusing Mshoza of abusing him.

The Kortes hitmaker then walked down the aisle with Durban businessman Thuthukani Mvula in 2017. But the union collapsed after the singer claimed that Mvula had physically abused her.

On February 13, Mshoza tied the knot with East Rand businessman Prince Dlamini at a Home Affairs office in Joburg in a low-key ceremony attended by close friends and relatives.

The married couple lived in Vonveld Park on the East Rand. However, the union with Dlamini is believed to have lasted only five months.

Mshoza's funeral service will be held at the House of Treasures Ministries in Risipark on Saturday.

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**KingK - G-Force - Play Boyz**

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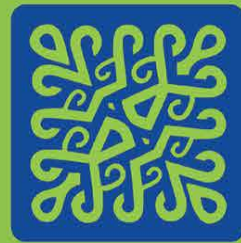


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## Be Car-Smart

### Eliminate distracted driving

Traffic accidents contribute to a significant number of personal compensation claims. Drink related accidents take up a fair chunk of these, but distracted driving is also responsible for its fair share.

Plus, distracted driving isn't rare. As many as 72% of drivers have admitted to multitasking whilst driving and as such are putting themselves and their passengers at risk. There are three forms of distracted driving:

**Visual:** These distractions will lead to the driver's eyes being taken away from the road. **Manual:** Manual distractions cause the driver to take one or both hands from the wheel.

**Cognitive:** Similar to visual but

will lead to the driver's attention being drawn away.

There are plenty of ways you could be distracted too. As driving instructors stress, your hands tend to follow where your eyes are looking. Adjusting the radio dial takes 5.5 seconds - and that's 5.5 seconds when eyes may not be on the road and both hands may not be on the wheel. Dialing a phone triples your risk of a crash. Reaching for a moving object increases it nine times. Worst of all is texting, which makes you 23 times more likely to crash.

"Avoid the temptation to multitask behind the wheel altogether and put your cell phone in

the glove compartment every time you get in the car," transportation experts advise. Many drivers will eat or drink behind the wheel (35% in fact), and many will be surprised that this is the most common cause for distracted driving. There's every chance you've had breakfast or lunch when on the move and this is putting you at risk.

The radio is a staple fixture in every vehicle, but also a primary cause for distracted driving. Whether it's finding your favourite radio station, putting in a new CD or skipping songs, your eyes will be off the road. 63% of drivers admit to fiddling with the car's radio, air con or entertainment system when driving - which in itself is a severe distraction from the road.

It's little surprise to find mobile phones on the list and of course, thanks to tech such as hands-free kits, this has thankfully decreased in

volume. However, mobile phone use at the wheel is still prevalent and 31% of motorists say they've spoken without a hands-free kit - whilst 30% say they've texted when driving. If you're texting at the wheel, your risk of crashing increases 23 times. For those dialling, risks rise 12 times.

Those you're travelling with are also a distraction to your driving, whether it's a friend or family member to the left or a screaming child in the back. Most parents surveyed say they've taken their eyes off the road ahead to comfort a crying child. Up to 40% of drivers admitted to being distracted by other passengers in the car. If you're running late, you may be tempted to apply your makeup whilst driving. However, from mascara and eyeliner to lipstick and blusher, you'll be putting yourself and other motorists

at risk. 5% of drivers say they've applied cosmetics when driving.

As you can see, there are plenty of ways you could be distracted when at the wheel. Distracted driving results in many accidents and deaths on a yearly basis and is the leading cause of death for 16-19-year-olds. Pedestrians are becoming more at risk from distracted drivers too and deaths have increased 19% since 2009. Distracted driving is difficult to avoid unless you take precautionary measures and be defensive driver, especially when you consider long commutes, the mind wandering or your attention being diverted for even a split second. Plus, you're also at risk from other distracted drivers on the road - whether it's someone using a mobile phone, grooming, changing their music or trying to calm a distressed child.

# Suzuki Centurion takes top award

... in a hotly contested Dealer of the Year 2019/20 Awards



including the best results for Suzuki Mobility Finance, good service quality, great sales support and freely available service and repair parts.

The best performing dealers win Elite Awards, and this year Centurion and six others won Elite Awards. These dealers are Suzuki Northcliff, Menlyn, Queenstown, Montana, Johannesburg South, and Bramley, last year's overall winner.

Coming in at a close second are the Platinum Dealers. They include Suzuki Bryanston, Bassonia, West Rand, Klerksdorp, Alberton, Vredenburg, Polokwane, Boksburg, and Hatfield.

"We were blown away by the level of service at all our dealers," says Venter. "Even more impressive is the fact that 16 dealers were recognised in the Elite and Platinum categories, despite more stringent criteria, which means that they had near perfect scores from their customers."

Other significant awards handed out during the Dealer Conference include the Dealer to Watch - Suzuki Zululand - the Most Improved Dealer - Suzuki Bryanston - and the Dealer Group with the Most Sales - IPOP SA. Suzuki Bramley was recognised as the Top Selling individual dealer and Suzuki Piet Retief had the best market share in its area. Lastly, Suzuki recognised individuals for their contribution to their dealers and the brand's success. Colin McClaren from Suzuki Alberton was the Technician of the Year, Moosa Toffar of Suzuki Table View was the Service Manager of the Year, Odette Allers of Suzuki Queenstown the Best Parts Manager, and Danie Labuschagne of Suzuki Menlyn was the best Sales Manager.

"We look back at our first 12 years in South Africa with great fondness and are especially thankful for our supportive, hard-working, and customer-focused dealers. We look forward to welcoming even more dealers into the fold in the year to come and to give each customer the level of sales and service support that Suzuki has become known for," says Venter.

After a year away, the trophy for the 2019/20 Suzuki Auto Dealer of the Year competition returns to Centurion.

Suzuki Centurion won the Dealer of the Year Award after receiving no less than 10 awards throughout the day, when Suzuki handed out regional and quarterly awards, and in the evening, when the best performing dealers were singled out.

This year, the Dealer of the Year Awards formed part of Suzuki Auto's dealer conference, which was titled "Build on the Best" and which focused on maintaining the positive customer service and sales growth that have seen Suzuki move from a Top 10 to Top 6 brand since hosting the last Dealer of the Year Awards.

"The past year has been tough, yet our dealer network has broken its own sales records almost as many times as the group has," says André Venter, divisional manager for sales and marketing at Suzuki Auto South Africa.

In support of Venter's statement is the fact that Suzuki handed performance awards to nearly half of its dealers to recognize and reward their exemplary performance.

"The baseline measurement that we used to identify the best performing dealers is significantly higher than the winning percentage of our Dealer of the Year Award from our first competition just over a decade ago. "This is very impressive if one considers that Suzuki

has doubled in size several times since then and has moved from a small brand to one of South Africa's best-selling brands.

"Despite this immense pressure on our sales and service support network, our dealers have never wavered, but rather increased the quality of their service to where Suzuki is now one of the two most-awarded brands in the Cars.co.za Consumer Awards for its customer service," says Venter.

Before winning the overall prize as Suzuki's best dealer for 2019/20, Suzuki Centurion received an Elite Dealer Award, the Award for the best Service Practice, the Best Parts Practice Award for every quarter in the period under review

and the awards for the best Service Satisfaction Index and best Customer Satisfaction Index. Centurion also won the certificate and trophy for the top Large Category Dealer in the group.

Several other dealers performed very well during the conference, including Suzuki West Rand (Top Medium Dealer and Top Medium Dealer in the Mobility Finance category), Suzuki George (Top Small Dealer) and Suzuki Queenstown (Top Rural Dealer and Top Rural Dealer in the Mobility Finance Category). Suzuki Queenstown also won the award for Best Sales Practice and Best Parts Practice.

As before, Suzuki singled out several dealers for performing at a very high average score across all categories.



# Nissan to address the future of mobility in Africa

... Nissan South Africa participates at annual HyperMobility Digital Engagement Conference



Nissan South Africa will participate in the HyperMobility Digital Engagement Conference, taking place virtually on 18 November. Chairman Nissan Africa South & Managing Director Nissan Egypt at Nissan Motor Corporation, Mr. Mike Whitfield will represent the company as a keynote panel speaker and will unpack the impact of the current operating environment and propose solutions for the industry beyond the pandemic.

The future of mobility relies on the industry's collective ability to develop innovative solutions that are both efficient and sustainable. This is particularly relevant as the world adjusts and responds to the impact of COVID-19 and as Africa's urban population grows. From manufacturing vehicles and components to service and repair technologies required for

electric and autonomous vehicles, there are increasing opportunities to meet the needs of the African market.

"Mobility is expected to transition increasingly from being product-centred to being service-centred in Africa as urban density increases. This shift has been accelerated due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Our vision is to move people to a better world through Nissan Intelligent Mobility; it's our commitment to making safe, smart and sustainable mobility available to more people in Africa," says Whitfield.

According to the African Association of Automotive Manufacturers (AAAM), in 2019, the global automotive industry increased its interactions on the continent, as Africa is widely considered the final frontier for the automotive

industry with great potential to be a catalyst for economic growth. To tap into this opportunity, digitalization and more sustainable and customised mobility services are required.

"Smarter mobility solutions represent key avenues for economic inclusion in Africa as they provide individuals with access to income earning opportunities," Mike Whitfield adds.

The Hypermobility conference is endorsed by NAAMSA and will be powered by AutoTrader. Under the theme Navigating the turbulence together towards mobility 4.0, the conference will consist of three panel discussions with keynote speakers from across the automotive industry, focusing on business strategies and examining the impact of pandemic on the automotive industry.

## Pro infotainment system recognised by AUTOBEST awards

... as Prestigious European motoring jury awards Jaguar Land Rover's Pivi Pro the SMARTBEST award for best connected technologies

Jaguar Land Rover's new Pivi Pro touchscreen infotainment has been recognised by the prestigious motoring jury AUTOBEST, receiving the SMARTBEST 2020 award dedicated to the best connected technologies in the industry.

Jaguar Land Rover's new Pivi Pro touchscreen infotainment has an industry-leading design and shares electronic hardware with the latest smartphones.

The fast-responding and intuitive Pivi Pro system allows customers to make full use of Software-Over-The-Air (SOTA) technology, without compromising its ability to stream music and connect to apps on the move.

The always-on and always-connected Pivi Pro set-up sits at the heart of Jaguar and Land Rover models and its high-resolution touchscreen allows customers to control all aspects of the vehicle using the same processing hardware as the latest smartphones. In addition, customers can connect two mobile devices to the infotainment head unit at once using Bluetooth, so the driver and passenger can enjoy hands-free functionality concurrently without the need to swap connections.

AUTOBEST Chairman Dan Vardie said: "This is one of the most ambitious prizes we offer, dedicated to the best connected technologies we have in the industry. This year, Pivi Pro proved to be unchallenged by any of the competitor's on-board connected technology, not to mention the simplicity in operation as the driver can focus on driving. Access to 90 per cent of commonly used functions from the display with a maximum of two clicks."

Peter Virk, Director of Connected Car and Future Technology for Jaguar Land Rover said: "Pivi Pro is testament to the incredible work within our software engineering teams and we're delighted to have been recognised with this award. With one Long Term Evolution (LTE) modem and eSIM dedicated to the Software-Over-The-Air (SOTA) technology and the same set-up looking after music streaming and apps, our latest cars have the digital capacity to keep customers connected, updated and entertained at all times anywhere in the world. You could liken the design to a brain, with each half enjoying its own connection for unrivalled and uninterrupted service. Like the brain, one side of the system looks after logical functions, like SOTA, while the other takes care of more creative tasks."

navigation is ready as soon as the driver is behind the wheel, while the embedded apps available – including Spotify, Deezer and TuneIn – provide full functionality even without your smartphone. Further connected features include Google and Microsoft Outlook calendar integration which enables the driver to view work diaries and even join important calls through the hands-free system. Meanwhile, weather at destination gives a forecast depending on the route entered in the navigation system.

Pivi Pro connectivity is provided by the latest dual-sim technology with two LTE modems enabling the system to carry out multiple functions at the same time, such as streaming media and downloading SOTA updates, without compromising performance. The cutting-edge connectivity also ensures minimal interruptions caused by coverage blackspots as it roams across network providers for the strongest signal.

Advanced SOTA connectivity enables customers to download and install software updates without having to visit a Jaguar retailer. Updates are downloaded in the background, with customers notified by an alert detailing the key changes. For updates that require the vehicle to be switched-off, customers can schedule a convenient time for installation.

To enable almost instantaneous start-up, Pivi Pro has its own dedicated power source, so

Pivi Pro infotainment is available on a range of Jaguar products including F-PACE, E-PACE, I-PACE, XF and XE. For Land Rover products, the system is available on the New Land Rover Discovery, Land Rover Discovery Sport, Range Rover Velar, Range Rover Evoque and Land Rover Defender.

## ... as Volvo Cars uses latest gaming technology to develop safer cars

# Ultimate driving simulator!

Volvo Cars engineers call it "the ultimate driving simulator", but it is not just an excuse for them to indulge their inner basement gamer. Instead, the Swedish company's ground-breaking mixed-reality simulator is used to make new strides in safety and autonomous driving technology.

A setup with a moving driving seat, a steering wheel with haptic feedback and a crystal-clear virtual reality headset would make any serious gamer jealous, but Volvo Cars' simulator takes this concept to the next level, making it hard to tell reality from simulation. Which is exactly the point.

Using cutting-edge technology from the leading real-time 3D development platform Unity and Finnish virtual and mixed reality experts Varjo, the simulator involves driving a real car on real roads. It combines life-like, high definition 3D graphics, an augmented reality headset, and a full-body Teslasuit that provides haptic feedback from a virtual world, while also monitoring bodily reactions.

This combination of software and hardware allows Volvo Cars engineers to endlessly simulate traffic scenarios on a real test track road while using a real car, all in total safety. Engineers can gain important insights on the interaction between people and the car for development of new safety, driver assistance and autonomous driving features.

Testers can be exposed to imagined active safety and driver assistance features, upcoming autonomous drive user interfaces, future car models and many other scenarios. It can be used on real test track roads or in the test lab, and every scenario is fully customizable. The possibilities are literally endless.

Volvo Cars "ultimate simulator" was demonstrated yesterday in an event live-streamed from Volvo's Open Innovation Arena and hosted by a team of its innovation experts.

Last year, together with Varjo, Volvo Cars became the first car maker to make it possible to drive a real car while wearing a mixed reality headset. Now that collaboration has been expanded to include Unity and

full-body haptic suit maker Teslasuit.

According to Casper Wickman, senior leader of User Experience at Volvo's Open Innovation Arena and one of the hosts of the livestream, this enables Volvo Cars to study authentic human reactions in a safe environment and at a fraction of the cost of a real test.

"Working together with great companies like Varjo, Unity and Teslasuit has allowed us to test so many scenarios that look and feel totally real, without having to physically build anything," says Casper Wickman. "It lets us test drive actual cars in through traffic scenarios that look and feel real, but can be adjusted at the touch of a button."

When developing safety systems for cars, like collision-avoiding technologies, testing is crucial. But testing these systems in reality can be dangerous, time-consuming and expensive. Virtual and mixed reality simulations, however, allow for perfectly safe testing in authentic environments, without having to build any physical prototypes or set up complex scenarios.

"By using this cutting-edge technology, we are exploring and leading the development for creating safe cars in the future. It's great to play a part in that," said Casper Wickman.

Last year, Volvo Cars, together with Varjo, became the first car maker to make it possible to drive a real car while wearing a mixed reality

headset. The Varjo XR-1 Developer Edition headset uses video cameras to enable mixed reality and provides mixed or virtual reality at a high-definition resolution. With the Varjo XR-1 headset, the objects and environments created in Unity can be seamlessly integrated into the real world.

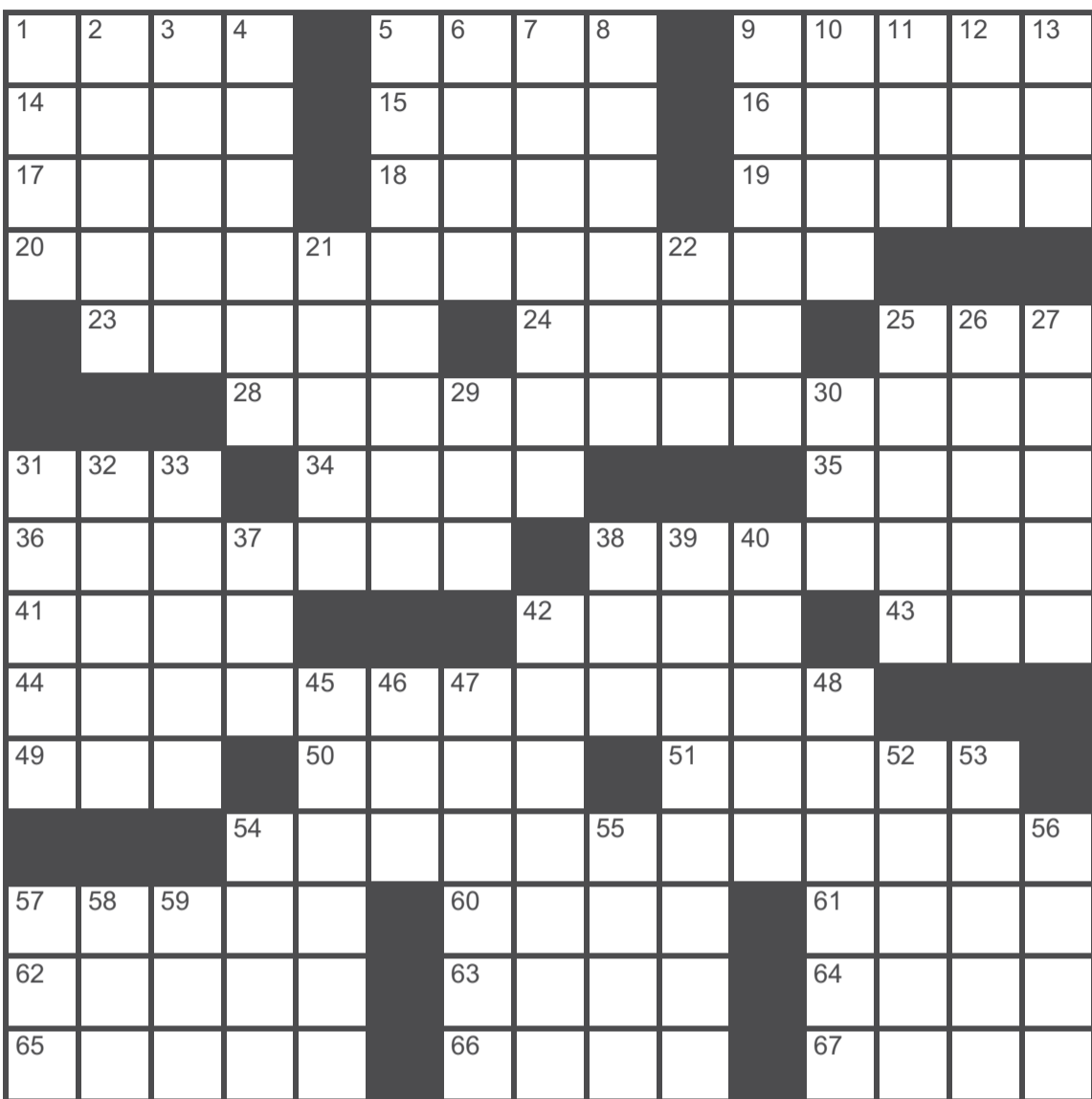
Through the application of forces, vibrations, or motions, haptic technology makes it possible to recreate the experience of touch when interacting with the virtual world. By wearing Teslasuit's advanced full-body haptic suit, Volvo's simulation testers can physically feel small reproductions of the forces one would experience in a crash, while experiencing no actual risk. The suit also enables Volvo's engineers to test these reactions by studying how muscles, stress levels, and heart rate react under stress, and apply this learning in creating the next generation of safety systems aimed at avoiding and mitigating risky situations.

The simulation scenarios are created using the latest real-time 3D software from Unity, the company behind one of the world's most popular development platforms for video game development. Using Unity, Volvo experts can create virtual environments and objects to use in simulations or put a fully accurate 3D model of any Volvo car design into any virtual environment, assessing the design in different lights, locations and weather.

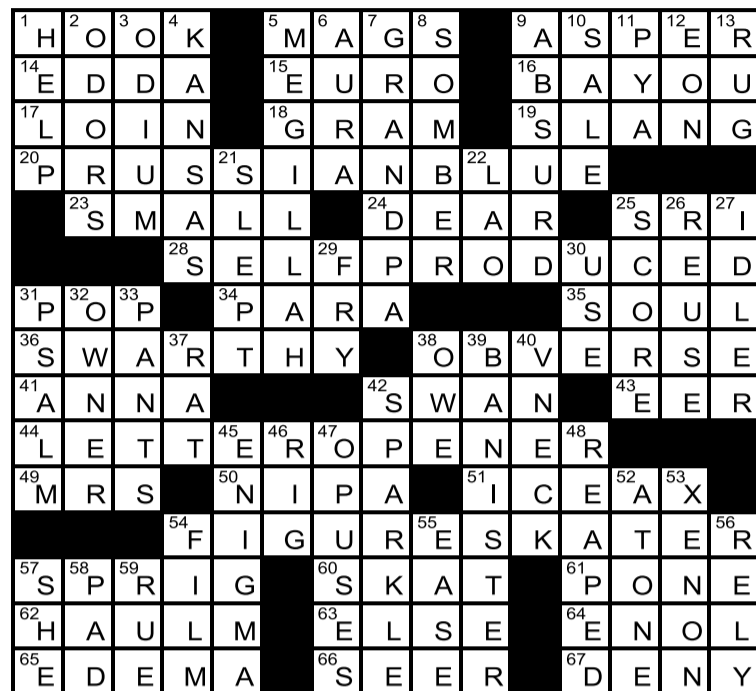




## General Crosswords



## Last Week's Solution



- 22. Genetic stuff
- 25. In a cold manner
- 26. Hindu queen
- 27. It may be red
- 29. Egg warmer
- 30. Calligrapher's purchase
- 31. Lyric poem
- 32. Someone down in the dumps
- 33. Grammar topic
- 37. Everyday article
- 38. Kind of part
- 39. Member of the AFL-CIO
- 40. Take over, in a way
- 42. Superior or favorable position
- 45. Fix
- 46. Wane
- 47. Line-up
- 48. Water nymphs
- 52. Record company
- 53. Kind of pad
- 54. Fountain order
- 55. Neurotransmission site
- 56. Ultimatum word
- 57. de deux
- 58. Doctrine: Suffix
- 59. Contend (for)

### ACROSS

- 1. Cut short
- 5. Hindu deity
- 9. Prophecy
- 14. Civil rights activist Parks
- 15. the Terrible
- 16. Muddle
- 17. Greasy
- 18. Fodder holder
- 19. Kitchen light
- 20. Skull breadth ratio
- 23. Mideast leaders
- 24. Lip-
- 25. Certain investment, for short
- 28. Numerical
- 31. Outback runner
- 34. Golf ball props
- 35. Opening time, maybe

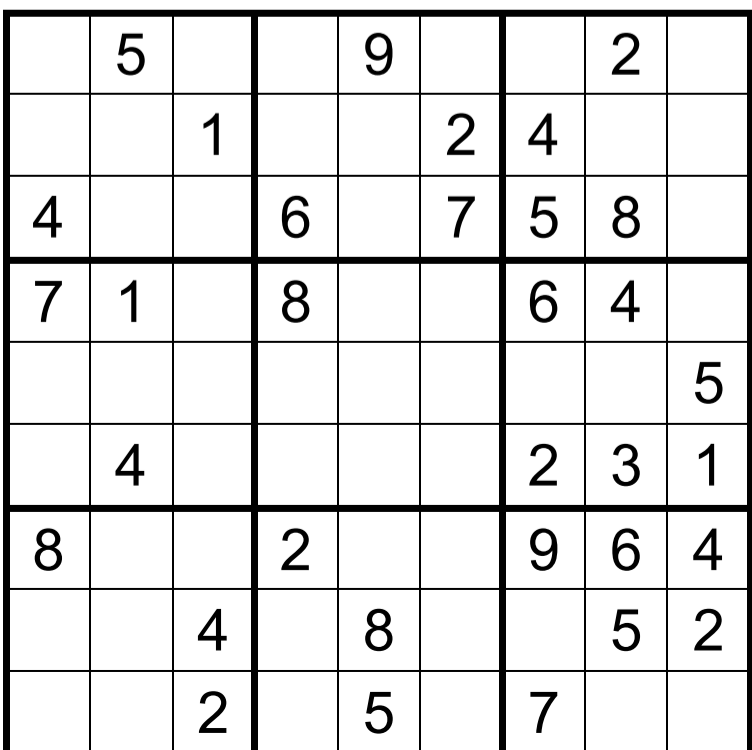
### DOWN

- 36. Gate
- 38. Arm shield
- 41. Brilliantly colored fish
- 42. Trattoria order
- 43. "Are we there ?"
- 44. Retrogression
- 49. Bard's "before"
- 50. Shade of black
- 51. Milky gems
- 54. Actualize
- 57. Turning point
- 60. Curbside call
- 61. Brother of Cain
- 62. Parenthetical comment
- 63. Freudian topics
- 64. Cub Scout groups
- 65. Makeup problem
- 66. Landlord's due

### DOWN

- 1. Gator's kin
- 2. France's longest river
- 3. Muhammad's religion
- 4. Heathen
- 5. Fiasco
- 6. Nefarious
- 7. Overnight cases
- 8. Nom de guerre
- 9. Appearance
- 10. Popular computer operating system
- 11. Friday
- 12. Roswell sighting
- 13. Same old, same old
- 21. Livid

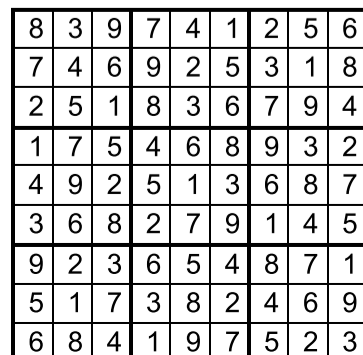
## Sudoku Puzzle



Fill in all the squares in the grid so that each row, each column and each 3x3 square contain all the from 1-9

This is the Quick Sudoku for the solver in a hurr: target time, ten minutes.

## Last Week's Solution



## So You Think You are Geneius

### Question (Answer next week)

What comes next in this sequence:

Dog cat mouse mole deer pig ==?==

Choose from: llama cow rabbit frog.



## Last Week's Answer



2 buttons: 10 minus the length of the word.



# Players must be able to train ahead of Australian Open – Medvedev

ATP Finals champion Daniil Medvedev says players health will be at risk if quarantine restrictions prevent them from playing or practising in the run-up to the Australian Open.

Organisers are in talks with the Victoria state government over the protocols to be put in place for those arriving in Australia for the first Grand Slam of the year.

State officials said on Wednesday the Melbourne Park tournament would go ahead, though it would likely take place a week or two after the scheduled date and that players would have to undergo quarantine.

"I'm going to go to Australia when we can to avoid any circumstances that would change

“

*It's just that going out from the room after 14 days of not doing anything and (then) playing five sets right away, I think would be really dangerous for the health of any sportsman*

your mind about competing there," world No 4 Medvedev told CNN.

"If, for instance, you weren't able to compete or to train during quarantine just ahead of the tournament, I don't think the tournament is going to happen."

Organisers of this year's US and French Opens established bio-secure 'bubbles' for players, who were not allowed to leave their hotel rooms except to train and play.

Medvedev said it would be "dangerous" for players to be confined to a hotel room for two



ATP Finals champion Daniil Medvedev

weeks after arriving in Australia and then going straight into a Grand Slam.

"(I'm) not complaining that it's boring or something like this," the Russian added.

"It's just that going out from the room after 14 days of not doing

anything and (then) playing five sets right away, I think would be really dangerous for the health of any sportsman."

Due to border restrictions between states and varied quarantine requirements by local governments across the country, Tennis Australia

plans to shift all build-up tournaments leading to the Grand Slam to Victoria.

Andy Murray told British media that players faced a "tricky" decision over whether to travel to Australia and said he would support mandatory vaccination for competitors at tournaments next year.

"I guess we'll have to wait and see what the ATP and the ITF (International Tennis Federation) decide their position is going to be on that. But I'm confident that players would be into it if it meant the tour going back to normality," Murray said. CNN



Ernst Middendorp

## Middendorp set for PSL return

Maritzburg United have named former Bafana Bafana winger Delron Buckley as their interim coach, but reports in Ethiopia suggest he is just keeping the seat warm for the return of Ernst Middendorp.

Buckley will take charge of the side when they host SuperSport United in the DStv Premiership on Friday following the axing of Eric Tinkler as the side lost their fifth game in a row against fellow strugglers Black Leopards last weekend.

That was part of a run of 12 games without a win dating back to the end of last season which forced a change in thinking from the club's management.

Middendorp was only unveiled as coach of Ethiopian Premier

League side St George last month after leaving Kaizer Chiefs having been pipped to the South African league title on the final day of the 2019-20 season.

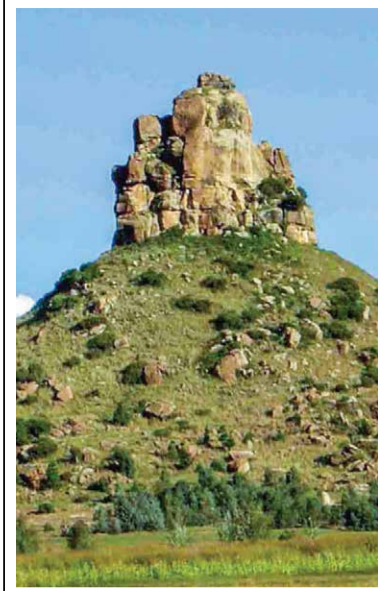
But the lure of the DStv Premiership appears strong and he is not set for a fourth spell as Maritzburg coach, having reportedly resigned at St George on Tuesday.

He has generally been regarded as successful in all of them, helping steer Maritzburg away from relegation danger, and that will be his task again with the club eager to get in an experienced coach with knowledge of the league.

Middendorp also previously coached Buckley in the German Bundesliga and at Maritzburg late in his playing career. SuperSport



National Weather



MASERU

FRIDAY	SATURDAY	
	22°C / 15°C	
30°C / 13°C	SUNDAY	
	23°C / 13°C	

MAFETENG

FRIDAY	SATURDAY	
	18°C / 12°C	
27°C / 13°C	SUNDAY	
	20°C / 11°C	

MOHALE'S HOEK

FRIDAY	SATURDAY	
	18°C / 12°C	
27°C / 13°C	SUNDAY	
	20°C / 11°C	

QUTHING

FRIDAY	SATURDAY	
	21°C / 14°C	
30°C / 13°C	SUNDAY	
	23°C / 12°C	

QACHA'S NEK

FRIDAY	SATURDAY	
	24°C / 13°C	
24°C / 10°C	SUNDAY	
	19°C / 10°C	

THABA TSEKA

FRIDAY	SATURDAY	
	15°C / 9°C	
20°C / 9°C	SUNDAY	
	16°C / 8°C	

MOKHOTLONG

FRIDAY	SATURDAY	
	19°C / 11°C	
23°C / 10°C	SUNDAY	
	20°C / 10°C	

BUTHA BUTHE

FRIDAY	SATURDAY	
	17°C / 12°C	
25°C / 12°C	SUNDAY	
	19°C / 11°C	

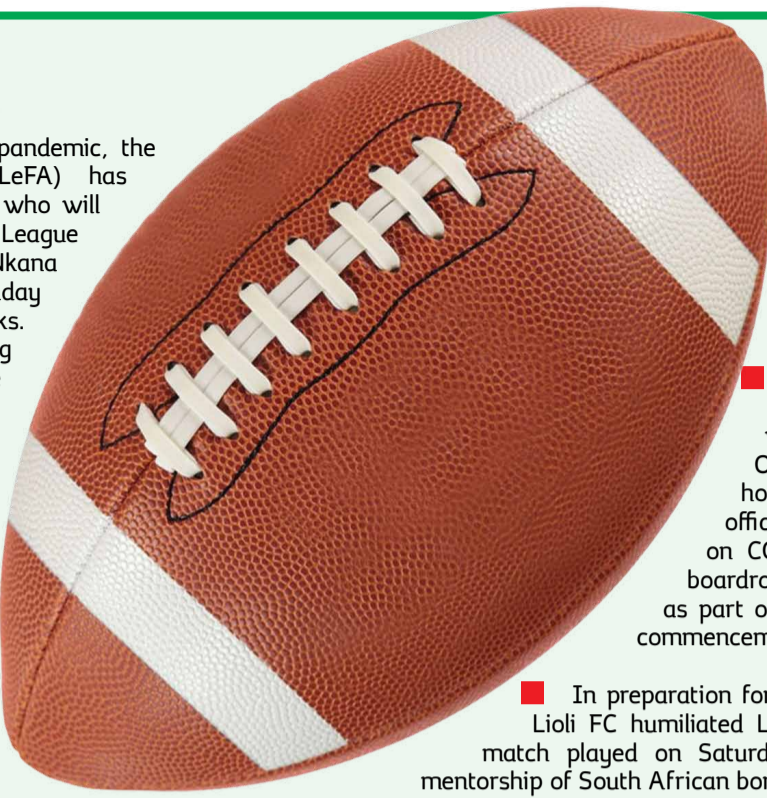
LERIBE

FRIDAY	SATURDAY	
	22°C / 15°C	
31°C / 15°C	SUNDAY	
	23°C / 13°C	

BEREA

FRIDAY	SATURDAY	
	17°C / 13°C	
25°C / 12°C	SUNDAY	
	19°C / 11°C	

News in Sports



■ Due to the prevailing COVID-19 pandemic, the Lesotho Football Association (LeFA) has announced that all the spectators who will be at attending the CAF Champions League match between Bantu FC and Nkana FC at Setsoto stadium on Sunday are expected to wear face masks. "There will also be a screening process before everyone enters the stadium and anyone whose their temperature will be found ranging above 37.5 degree Celsius will not be allowed into the stadium," LeFA stated in a statement.

■ LeFA also showed that alcoholic drinks will not be allowed into the stadium and spectators' vehicles will also not be allowed into the stadium in a move to address the issue of banned alcohol. All spectators are expected to maintain social distancing throughout the match. Only 6 000 tickets will be sold as the Prime Minister earlier announced that only 50 percent of the spectators' capacity is permitted for outdoor sport activities.

The match starts at 4pm. LeFA also made preparations with Lesotho Television for the match to be televised to cater for those who will not go to the stadium.

■ The Federation of Lesotho Rugby (FLR) together with the Lesotho National Olympic Committee (LNOC) hosted a successful coaches', officials and captains' workshop on COVID-19 issues at the LNOC boardroom last week. This was done as part of preparations for the league commencement.

■ In preparation for the 2020/21 football season, Lioli FC humiliated Lilemela FC 9-0 in a friendly match played on Saturday. Tse-Nala are under the mentorship of South African born coach, Ntsheng Tshabalala.

■ Matlama FC also stunned newly promoted premier league side Manonyane FC 3-0 on Friday in another friendly game preparing for the new football season.

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# National MTB Championship on in December

**TEBOHO JAFETA**  
sports@maserumetro.com

**MASERU** – One of Lesotho's premium cycling events, the National Mountain Bike Championship will be held on December 12 in Ha Tšame, after it was suspended for four months due to the COVID-19 outbreak.

According to the Federation of Cycling Lesotho (FCL) publicist Malefane Morie, the annual race is normally held in August or September but was this time around postponed when all local sporting activities were banned in March because of the pandemic.

"We could have held the race sooner after the ban on sporting activities was lifted but we decided to shift it to December to allow our defending champion, Tumelo Makae who is based in Switzerland to be back for the tournament," he said, adding they could not hold the event without the national champion.

Makae arrived in Lesotho two weeks ago for the Christmas holiday.

"He could not fly to Lesotho earlier due to air transport restrictions brought about by the COVID-19 lockdown in Switzerland," Morie also said.

Makae is currently based at the International Cycling Union (UCI) Training Centre, where he trains under the Olympic Solidarity Athlete Scholarship through the Lesotho National Olympic Committee (LNOC).

Before defending his title in the upcoming event, the cyclist who is a member of the Sufferfest African Dream Team will compete in another race in South Africa on December 5.

Morie said the federation decided to make registrations for the December 12 event through online to avoid the issue of competitors queuing up on the competition day.



**HARD-WORKING:** Defending national cycling champion Tumelo Makae

"We are highly committed to observing COVID-19 protocols before and during the event, hence we prohibit sharing of bicycles, helmets, pumps or any tools during the event," he also noted.

The competitors, he said will be screened before and after the show, adding that no spectators will watch the race.

According to the race technical guidelines, registrations will close at midnight on the eve of the race and no registration will be done at the venue. Only distribution of numbers will be conducted.

“

We could have held the race sooner after the ban on sporting activities was lifted but we decided to shift it to December to allow our defending champion, Tumelo Makae who is based in Switzerland to be back for the tournament

Riders are expected to maintain a social distance of at least two from one another before the starting time, during the race and after the race. A socially distanced prize-giving ceremony will also be held after the event for the top five finishers only.

There will be no prize monies awarded this year, but the winners are scheduled to get UCI rankings. The national female champion, Likeleli Mositse is set to defend her title.

The race categories comprise Junior Boys, Youth Boys, Under 14 Boys and Girls as well as Development Riders. The senior sections include the Elite and Veteran Women, Veteran Men and Elite Men.



**IN ACTION:** Local cricket teams during a league game

# Cricket body prepares for ICC pilot project

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**MASERU** – After a long break brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic, the Lesotho Cricket Association (LCA) has finally begun preparing for the implementation of the International Cricket Council (ICC) pilot project, which among others establishes hubs in Africa as a way of

developing the sport from the grassroots level.

LCA on Saturday began training the Maseru district personnel that will operate the hubs to be established by the association in two locations in the capital city, at Lesotho High School and Maseru Private Academy.

According to LCA media liaison officer Clifford Molefe, the training was held at Mabathoana High School where a good number

of participants attended.

Similar workshops were held in Leribe and Berea a few weeks ago. LCA is to establish hubs in Botha-Bothe, Leribe, Berea, Maseru and Mhale's Hoek. The Leribe hub will be located at Hlotse High School while the one in Berea will be established at the Thakaneng Youth Centre. St Stephens High School will house the Mhale's Hoek hub while a location is yet to be identified

for the one in Botha-Bothe.

The project according to Molefe is fully sponsored by the International Cricket Council (ICC) through ICC Africa.

Lesotho is the first country to benefit from the cricket grassroots project in Africa. The expectation is that if the project succeeds in Lesotho, the ICC will expand it to other African countries.



# The brilliant football tactician - Lehlohonolo Thotanyana

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sports@maserumetro.com

**MASERU** – When a serious knee injury forced him to hang up his soccer boots earlier than anticipated, Lehlohonolo Thotanyana did not entirely despair nor wallow in self-pity like most footballers in similar situations normally do.

Instead, Thots, as Thotanyana is affectionately called in football circles focused his attention on the coaching and administration components of his beloved sport.

Through hard work, commitment and his never-die attitude, today he is one of the most proficient football coaches in Lesotho with several coaching qualifications under his arm.

For someone who never played football in the country's elite leagues, this is indeed a huge feat rarely achieved in the industry.

At the time he suffered the debilitating injury forced him out of competitive football, he was playing for a then little known non-league club called Tigers in his home town of TY in Berea as a founding member of the team.

"I was forced to stop playing at the age of 24 that was in 1980. But I never actually quit being part of football because I started concentrating on coaching instead," Thotanyana recalls.

The self-taught coach started reading football coaching books and learnt how to analyse matches on his own.

Later on, he met great soccer mentors including the late Styles Phumo and Monaheng Doc Monyane along with legends like Seephephe Mochine Matete and Bensen Fisher who contributed immensely towards his coaching career.

Today, Thotanyana is a highly revered coach who holds countless coaching certificates acquired all over the world, over the years.

In 1989, he obtained his first coaching certificate from the Federation of International Football Associations (FIFA) Coca-Cola Youth Football Academy.

The same year he also acquired his first Sport Leadership qualification – the Olympique Solidarite Sport Leadership Certificate.

In 1990 he obtained an Intermediate Football Coaching Certificate from the Confederation of African Football (CAF).

Alongside Khethang Khohlooa and Leslie Notsi, he attended the Deutscher Fussball Bund A License Football Coaching course in Hennesfieg-Germany in 1992.



Thotanyana obtained the FUTURO I Football Coaching Certificate in 1993.

Two years later, he went to Budapest, Hungary with Notsi to study Sport Science for three months at the Hungarian University of Physical Education, specialising in football.

He obtained a FUTURO II Football Coaching Certificate in 1998, a CAF Advanced Football Coaching Certificate in 2000 and a KNVB Coaching Certificate in 2001.

He obtained a CAF High Level Football Coaching Certificate in 2001 and a FUTURO III Refresher Coaching Certificate in Maputo, Mozambique in 2007.

Later that year, he obtained a B-Licence Football Coaching Certificate from the England Football Association in Lileshall, England - the qualification is equivalent to an UEFA B-Licence Football Coaching Certificate.

He also attended an England Football Association Tutorship workshop in 2007.

The following year, he obtained a FUTURO III Instructors' Certificate in Mbabane, Swaziland.

In 2009 he obtained a second coaches' instructor certificate and attended a GTZ

course on mainstreaming HIV/AIDS through football in Pretoria, South Africa.

Apart from attending various coaching and sports leadership courses, Thotanyana also attended several sports seminars and conferences.

In 1994, he attended the African Union Sports Council (AUSC) conference in Malawi.

He also attended a conference in football matters organised by UEFA and CAF in Barcelona, Spain in 2007 and a SOCCEREX (soccer fair) seminar in Johannesburg, South Africa in 2008.

Thotanyana has had a phenomenal experience as a coach over the past years.

In 1993, he won the Independence Cup with premier giants Bantu FC. He guided and gained promotion to the Premier League with former A-Division team - Lioli FC in 1996.

He also secured a place in the CAF preliminaries for the Cup Winners Cup with Bantu FC in 1998.

From 2000 until 2003, he coached newly promoted Lifefo FC of Khubetsoana from A-Division to the Premier League and secured a top 8, top 10 and top 5 spots.

He assisted the U-20 national team to secure a semi-final spot in the regional youth tournament (COSAFA) in 2003.

In 2004, with the same team, he qualified for the 2005 Benin CAF tournament.

As the Under-23 national team head coach, Thotanyana reached the semi-finals in the 2007 SASOL 8 nations tournament in South Africa, where Cameroon, Ivory Coast, Egypt, Ghana, Lesotho, China, Botswana and hosts South Africa met.

Lesotho's group comprised Egypt, Ghana and Ivory Coast.

The national side came top in the group and won the Best Team of the tournament and the Fair Play awards.

Between 2014 and 2015, he was assistant coach to Notsi at the Garankuwa United second tier team in South Africa.

He also ran several coaching clinics as a local Lesotho Football Association (LeFA) coach educator and co-instructor in FIFA courses.

Between 1994 and 1995, he was the assistant coach to the late Phumo who led Likuena.

From 1998 to 1999 he was the Under-17 national team head coach before he mentored the national Under-20 side in 2000.

Later that year, he became Likuena's assistant head coach, deputising the late Monyane.

Between 2003 and 2005, he deputised Matete who led the Under-20 national side.

Thotanyana became the national Under-23 team head coach in 2007 before he joined Likuena two years later as assistant to Notsi.

Again in 2013 until 2014, he deputised Notsi who was still Likuena's head coach.

Thotanyana is the son of the late Tšepo and 'Manthabiseng Thotanyana of Teyateyaneng in Berea. He is the third child in the family of six - three boys and three girls.

He was born in 1956 in Orlando East, Soweto, Gauteng in South Africa where his parents were working.

He attended primary school at St John Bechment in Soweto but only went as far as Grade Two before his parents returned to Lesotho in 1962 and settled in TY.

He went to Assumption Primary School where he did Grade One up to Grade Five before his family relocated to Maseru.

He completed his primary education at St Bernadette Primary School in 1970.

He obtained his Junior Certificate (JC) at 'Mabathoana High School in 1973 and later his Cambridge Overseas School Certificate (COSC) at Maseru High School in 1978.

After he left high school, he pursued a Diploma in Applied Psychology through correspondence with the Intec College in South Africa between 1988 and 1990.

Thotanyana worked for the Taste of the Employment Bureau of Africa (TEBA) as a clerk from 1978 until 1983.

Between 1989 and 1990, he worked for the now defunct Metro Cash and Carry Wholesales as a floor supervisor.

After he left the wholesaler in 1990, he became a self-employed entrepreneur who specialised in designer clothing.

He joined the government service and worked as a Senior Sports Organiser between 1993 and 2014.

His duties included assisting in the promotion and development of sports, working and coordinating with sports associations.

From 2003 until 2008, he was attached to LeFA as a Youth Development Officer in the Technical Department before he was upgraded to the position of a Technical Director in 2015, where he served the football governing body until 2018.

When he left LeFA in 2018, Thotanyana joined the TY-based Premier League giants Lioli FC, as head coach until 2019.

He is currently back at LeFA where he serves as a Coach Education Officer, a position he assumed in September.

He married Lebohlang Thabaneng of Mohale's Hoek in 1981 and the couple is blessed with three children.

