



# Newsletter May 2017



# YORK BLOWS OFF ROOF FOR NEW PLYWOOD PRESS



In November 2016, Raute (a company supplying wood processing machinery based in Finland) was awarded the contract to supply a new 48 Daylight Plywood Press for the newly upgraded Sabie Plywood Plant. An arrival date for the machinery was set for August 2017 and the York Timbers Engineering team started planning...



One of the first challenges the team encountered, was the height of the new 48 daylight press. The existing Plywood building was only 9,5 meters high and once completed the new 48 daylight press would tower almost 12 meters high. Two solutions were considered to overcome this problem: 1) construct a taller building or 2) raise the existing building by 5 meters. Taking into consideration that no production interruptions were possible, the proposed location of the new press, access to site and Sabie weather, it was decided to raise the roof.

In order to raise the roof in a safe, cost effective and timely manner without compromising the structural integrity of the building, it was decided to extend 16 columns and raise (pull) a 1165 square meter section at once using hand operated chain hoists (or known in the construction industry as a “Come along”).

The first test was to evaluate the buckling of the 36 meter single spanning trusses. Secondly, the new unbraced 5 meter columns were analyzed for slenderness and swaying. Lastly, the raised section was checked for twisting. Once we had a green light on all of the above mentioned tests we proceeded to the next step.



IT WAS DECIDED TO EXTEND 16 COLUMNS AND RAISE (PULL) A 1165 SQUARE METER SECTION AT ONCE USING HAND OPERATED CHAIN HOISTS.

The preparation work started in March 2017 and took about 6 weeks. The lift was postponed once due to inclement weather and on 19 April 2017 at 9am a team of 25 workers started to raise the roof. At a steady rate of 500mm per hour the roof started to lift. At 18:00 and with the last light fading we reached 5 meters and secured the roof into its new position. The following morning the chain hoists were removed and the team started installing bracing, ties and side cladding.

THE PROJECT WAS COMPLETED IN EARLY MAY 2017 WITHOUT ANY PRODUCTION INTERRUPTIONS, WITHIN BUDGET AND ON TIME.

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# York Etiquette in meetings: 7 things you need to know

Is it acceptable to eat during a meeting, or check your phone? If broken, the unwritten rules of meeting professionalism may damage your reputation and relationship with colleagues.

- 1. Be on time and prepared:** Make sure you come on time and prepare for the meeting ahead of time. Have your presentation or notes ready – don't fumble around and make a fool of yourself.
- 2. Make introductions:** If everyone doesn't know one another in the meeting room, you need to make introductions. As a courtesy you should do this by starting with the person of the highest rank first.
- 3. Sit appropriately:** Don't slouch or look like you are lounging – be alert not relaxed.
- 4. Pay attention:** Be involved in the content. Be present and listen – you are at the meeting for a reason. Respect the meeting and make it count.
- 5. Your phone:** Put it in your pocket, keep it on vibrate. You may NOT leave the room if you have to take a call. You may not take a call during a meeting. Only use WhatsApp if it is an emergency.
- 6. Raise issues:** Don't leave the meeting and then discuss how you disagreed or that the facts were not on the table. Raise issues and facts in the meeting so that the correct decisions are made and that everyone leaves with consensus.
- 7. Commit:** Do what you agreed to do in the way you agreed to do it in the meeting. Do not walk out and forget or change the decision and action agreed.

# York Rally 2017

# Selfie Competition winners

And the winners are ...

Yolandie Turner and Elzane Strydom from Driekop Mill!

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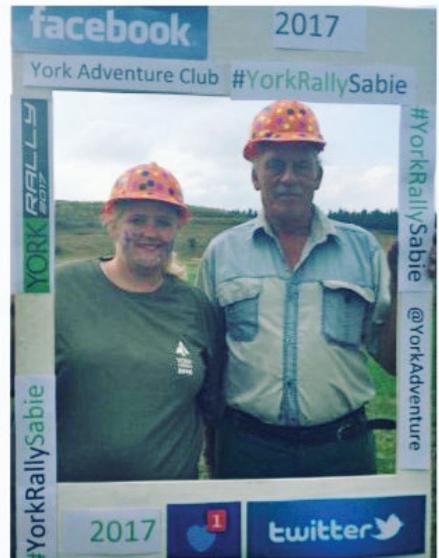
**2nd Place:**  
Aiden and Deon Breytenbach

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**3rd Place:** York HR and Training Team

# More Selfies...



**Congratulations and well done to everyone that participated!**

# Annual Fire Fighting competition



Mauchsberg team with Supervisor Sibusiso Sithole, Winner of the Fire Truck Competition with a remarkable time of 2:55 as well as the best fire truck driver and neatest Fire truck.

On Friday 19 May, The Escarpment Ward (from Bourke's Luck to Brooklands) of the Lowveld and Escarpment Fire Protection Association (LEFPA) held an annual preparedness competition. This is held at the beginning of the fire season and is open to all landowner members which includes the corporates, private farmers and municipalities. Four categories of events were held – Heavy Fire Trucks, Light Fire Trucks, Bakkie Sakkies, and a Manual Tracer Belt Team Construction Event.

A competition like this gives you a good idea of what is likely to go wrong in pressure situations and to benchmark yourselves against other teams.

A big word of thanks to everyone in York who attended the day and were involved in the organization and judging. A special thank you to Andre Scheepers from LEFPA that arranged a bomber drop, this rounded of the day perfectly.

This competition involved hoeing a 50m long belt 2m wide in a compartment by removing all combustible material.

Thank you to all the sponsors for the generous sponsorships that made it possible to host this special event. They are:

**York Timbers**

**SAFCOL (Komatiland Forests)**

**Middelburg Sawmill**

**Ulusaba Sawmill**

**Long Tom Lumber**

**GPS News**

**EVS Sabie**

**LEFPA**



## **Congratulations to the winners of the categories as follows:**

### **1. Rake hoeing (8 teams participated)**

**Winner:** York Contractor: Gobonzela Hendriksdal – Solly Mokoena and his team  
Time: 4:03.

### **2. Fire Truck Competition (17 Trucks participated)**

**Winner:** York Timbers Mauchsberg: Sibusiso Sithole and his crew team  
Time: **02:55**. This was certainly the record of the day.

**Second:** York Contractor: Gobonzela Rhenosterhoek –  
Dick Makamo and his crew team. Time 3:30.

### **3. Bakkie Sakkies (9 Bakkie Sakkies participated)**

**Winner:** York Contractor: Gobonzela Hendriksdal – Driver: Ed de Bruno Austen

**Second:** York Timbers Taurus – Driver: Trevor Nkosi

### **4. Best Fire truck driver** – York Timbers Mauchsberg Driver: Sibusiso Sithole

### **5. Neatest Fire truck** – York Timbers Mauchsberg Driver: Sibusiso Sithole

### **6. Neatest Bakkie Sakkie** – Komatiland Forests Morgenzon: Driver Bernard Ndlovu

### **7. Best Rake Hoe supervisor** – York Contractor: Gobonzela Hendriksdal Driver: Solly Mokoena

### **8. Lucky Draw EVS Sponsorship:** Lohan Pieterse of York Timbers and Chris Pickup of Komatiland Forests.

It was heart warming to see so many participants and spectators as well as Plantation Managers and District Managers that assisted with the judging of the different categories. Taking note of the rights and wrongs for the day will certainly assist each and every landowner to be alert and prepared for the 2017 fire season that is upon us.

Thank you to all the York teams that took part in the competition, you are doing an excellent job!

**PLEASE REMEMBER TO TAKE CARE OUT THERE  
– SAFETY FIRST!**

# Mother's Day thank you letters

All the mother's / ladies from York Timbers Jessievale Site would like to thank York together with Ansie for showing love by giving us KIT KAT Chocolates to celebrate Mother's Day.

Proverbs 23:22

Listen to your father without him you will not exist.

When your mother is old show her your appreciation

Regards

*Mhlophe*

I would just like to take this opportunity to thank you for our surprise gift. Thank you very much. May God bless u and your family.

Regards

*Annah Takazane*

*Jessievale*

The ladies are so happy.  
Thank you York timbers.

*Phoenix*

*Jessievale.*



What a surprise for all the York Woman:

Thank you YORK TIMBERS for the KitKat chocolate-break with the beautiful message for Mother's day:

Proverbs 31:26

She opens her mouth with wisdom,

And the teaching of kindness

Is on her tongue

We are working for a STAR Company and it's a privilege to be part of the York Family.

Kind Regards

*Elize Strydom*

What a nice surprise from our company, we would like to say a very BIG THANK YOU for remembering and spoiling us with these chocolates, we love you York!

Regards

*Desmond  
Klipkraal nursery*



Thank you York timbers of thinking about us too. We really appreciate!

*Iphupho Sewing ladies.  
Jessievale.*



On behalf of all the ladies here at Driekop we just want to say Thank you for the Mother's day gift. I can assure you that for these ladies it meant so much. I made sure they knew it came from Head office and I think that it made them feel extra special to know that Head office send them something for Mother's day.

There was not a single lady that left my office on Friday without a big smile on her face. Thank you very much for this. It really was such a beautiful gesture.

Kind Regards  
Yolandie



Happy girl Maphangela



**Left to Right:** Joyce Mbuyane, Dineo Mashego, Sibongile Ngwenyama, Khensani Mathebula.

**Front:**  
Lorraine Mkhonto



Khanyisile Soko



**Left to Right:** Lorraine Mashego, Tebogo Ngobe, Magdelin Monareng



**Left to Right:** Kgotatso Sekgobela, Sinkie Nonyane

## Jessivale's own star!



Zacharia Nkosi of Drymill foreman Jessivale stepped away with the Gert Sibande Star media award in the Gospel division. Zacharia released a CD and a DVD titled "Isibane". He is a motivational speaker of note and we are very proud of him!

Congratulations Zacharia!!

# Our new forestry students

WELCOME



Sinesipho Sapepa

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Vuyolwethu Kwaza

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# Our new team for the Trainee Operator Learnership

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**Thabane Dibakoane**

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**Frederick Mphuthi**

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**Njabulo Ndhlovu**

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# Memoriam



Our dear colleague and friend Hendrik Khoza passed away on 27 May 2017.

Hendrik was extremely dedicated and worked for York for 40 years, starting as a Board Grader in January 1977 and then he moved into the Quality Team until most recently, where he worked as Product Co-ordinator in the Sales Team.

He was highly respected for his professionalism and much loved by all. Our sincere condolences to his family and to all that knew him.

**There will be a memorial service on Saturday,  
03 June 2017 at 08H00 for Hendrik Khoza.**

**It will be held at his family home: Stand no 238,  
Kildare A, Ximhungwe, Mkhuhlu.**

**Please contact Juliana who is coordinating directions and transport.**

# ALEXANDER FORBES RETIREMENT FUND



Dear Member,

## Enhancing your retirement savings through - Additional Voluntary Contributions

The Management Committee would like to remind you of your opportunity to enhance your Retirement savings, through Additional Voluntary Contributions, **with effect October each year**. Refer to last month's York newsletter where you receive a tax benefit for Additional Voluntary Contributions.

## Investment Returns

You are reminded that investing for Retirement is a long term strategy and there may be short term volatility in markets. The returns are also published on a monthly basis and can be found on the Alexander Forbes website at [www.alexanderforbes.co.za](http://www.alexanderforbes.co.za).

## Nomination of beneficiary forms

The Management Committee would like to remind you of the importance of having a fully completed **nomination of beneficiary form** in file. Existing information **should be updated annually or on a life event**, to ensure your most recent information is indicated. The beneficiary nomination forms are available in Zulu, Xosa, English and Afrikaans.

Kindly speak to your HR should you wish to update your beneficiary nomination forms.

## Assistance

As a member of the AFRF York Timbers retirement fund, you have access to financial advice.

Phone the **Alexander Forbes Individual Advice Centre** on **0860 100 444** for financial advice.

Alternatively you can contact **Ryan Smithyman** on tel **+27 13 756-8321**.

