

# FREE PLATINUM BUSHVELDER



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Jou Gratis Gemeenskapskoerant | Your Free Community Newspaper | 16 JANUARY 2026



'n Voertuig word by 'n bek- en klouseer-beheerpunt langs 'n plaaslike pad gestop as deel van streng biosekuriteitsmaatreëls om die verspreiding van die siekte te voorkom.

## HEIGHTENED ALERT AS

# Foot-and-Mouth Disease Risks Rise

**Platinum Bushvelder newspaper | Thabazimbi** – Foot-and-mouth disease (FMD) has emerged as a serious and growing threat to Thabazimbi and the greater Matlabas region, placing people, animals and the local economy at risk. The area relies heavily on cattle farming, wildlife ranching and the hunting industry — all of which depend on healthy animals and strictly regulated movement.

FMD is a highly contagious disease affecting all cloven-hoofed animals, including cattle, sheep, goats and several wildlife species. A major concern is that infected animals may show no visible symptoms for up to 14

days, yet can still spread the virus during this incubation period. A single confirmed case can result in a 10 km restriction zone, with severe financial and operational consequences for farms and businesses linked to Thabazimbi and surrounding districts.

To limit the spread of the disease, strict biosecurity protocols, controlled farm access and legally required permits for animal movement are essential. Authorities emphasise that community vigilance and cooperation remain the strongest defence.

**Full story on page 7.**

## VACANCIES PAGE 2-4

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Valterra Platinum  
Vacancies

Company Description

Valterra Platinum, formerly Anglo American Platinum, is a leading primary producer of platinum group metals (PGMs), with integrated mining, smelting, and refining operations in South Africa and Zimbabwe, marketing the metal we produce globally. Following our demerger from Anglo American plc, Valtterra Platinum is now an independent, publicly listed company with a primary and secondary listing on the Johannesburg and London stock exchanges respectively.

As we embark on this exciting new chapter, Valtterra Platinum is positioned to define and pursue its own strategy, anchored in operational excellence, sustainability, and value creation for the long-term. With full accountability for our performance and growth, we are focused on strengthening our capabilities across the entire PGM value chain, from mine to market.

Our independence empowers us to deepen our commitment to stakeholders and lead with purpose – to Unearth Value to Better Our World. We remain steadfast in our ambition to be the world’s foremost producer of platinum group metals, while embedding safety and sustainability in everything we do.

If you’re driven by purpose and the opportunity to make a lasting impact, we invite you to join us. Apply today and be part of something bigger.

Additional information

What We Offer

At Valtterra Platinum, you will join a team committed to excellence and impact.

- We offer:
- Meaningful work in a high-performance, values-led environment.
  - Market-aligned reward and recognition.
  - Opportunities for learning, development and progression.
  - A culture that respects diversity and encourages innovation.
  - A clear commitment to safe Operations.

Inclusion and Diversity

Valterra Platinum is an equal opportunities employer. We are committed to promoting an inclusive and diverse workplace where we value and respect every colleague for who they are and provide equality of opportunity so that everyone can fulfill their potential. Valtterra Platinum has a zero tolerance to dignity harms, these include all acts of gender-based violence, bullying, harassment and victimisation. Ensuring the safety of our employees extends beyond physical safety and includes the eradication of harmful behaviors from our workplace. This responsibility extends to everyone at Valtterra Platinum both during work hours and outside of work. We are unconditional in creating a respectful, inclusive, and safe working environment to ensure that no colleague will be violated or harassed under our watch.

How to Apply

To apply for this role, please complete our online application form via this job advert.

<https://www.valtterraplatinum.com/careers/job-opportunities/apply>

Engineering Specialist

Number of positions: 1  
Location of position: Mortimer Smelter

Purpose of the role

- The Engineering Specialist Surface is responsible for providing operational service to the workshops Section Engineering Manager, with a year planning horizon.
- The role ensures effective and safe Maintenance of engineering equipment.

Job Description

Job responsibilities include (but are not limited to):

- Safety:**
- Create a safety culture through productive and authorized operational systems/ processes that allow all employees (including contracting partners) to provide their outputs in a risk-controlled environment.
  - Oversee consistent application of Safety & Health principles in all discipline interactions and take personal responsibility for safety of self and others to ensure zero harm and elimination of fatalities.

Performance and Delivery

- Assist the Section Engineering Manager in developing an operational plan for the year to support the achievement of throughput objectives.
- Undertake to plan, up to 1-2 years ahead, the budget requirements according to the planned maintenance schedules verses operational targets.
- Liaise with the Section Engineering Manager regarding daily, weekly and monthly progress to plan, budget and employees’ resources.
- Review operational plan and re-assign targets

- and objectives to subordinates.
- Regularly communicate progress of section against operational targets and objectives.
- Evaluate, monitor and provide continuous feedback to the section regarding the performance efficiencies, standards of the section labour, equipment, budget and process targets.
- Undertake to audit the satisfaction of the operational team to who the coordinator provides high level technical support.
- Oversee the quality of workmanship and conduct regular inspections around the section.
- Plan daily, weekly and monthly work requirements and priorities.
- Allocate labour resources and equipment to scheduled and priority activities to maintain and ensure high levels of labour, equipment and operational performance standards.
- Establish procedures for abnormal work requirements which fall outside of standard procedures.
- Ensure that accurate labour records including overtime worked are maintained and record keeping of legal compliance.
- Prepare ad-hoc reports for management or other information for customers.
- Completion of audit administration.
- Ensure that engineering administration requirements are complied with.
- Ensure that technical data is accurate.
- Liaise with other Engineering Specialists and Foremen to ensure that any problems that could overlap with other sections are pro-actively identified and discussed.
- Execute any reasonable work instruction provided by any senior or team members to ensure the effective completion of a task or safe making of an area.
- Oversee the development of a healthy spirit of co-operation within the section.

- Identify operational priorities within the section that would ensure the optimization of the section’s performance.
- Monitor the Central logistics process to identify any possible problems or risk areas to the section and schedule remedy actions.
- Ensure that all the data captures on the operational and technical management information and control systems are accurate and timeous.
- Regularly review operational and technical data to extract trends, identify problems and comply management reports.

Compliance

- Ensure compliance with internal and external regulatory and legislative requirements.
- Environmental Policies
- Ensure safety and engineering policies are adhered to.

Qualifications

- Electrical Foreman Certificate
- MV Certificate advantageous
- Engineering Specialist Certificate

Experience

- 5 years’ experience as Engineering Foreman

Technical Knowledge and Skills

- Experience in processing Environment will be advantageous
- Mechanical Technical Knowledge is advantageous
- Able to understand, read and interpret Mechanical Drawings
- Able to interpret and understand Electrical single line diagram
- Strong Electrical Technical knowledge is advantageous
- Advanced computer literacy
- Valid driving licence

Senior Instrumentation Technician

Number of positions: 2  
Location of position: Mortimer Smelter

Job Description

Job responsibilities include (but are not limited to):

- Safety:**
- Create a safety culture through productive and authorized operational systems/ processes that allow all employees (including contracting partners) to provide their outputs in a risk-controlled environment.
  - Oversee consistent application of Safety & Health principles in all discipline interactions and take personal responsibility for safety of self and others to ensure zero harm and elimination of fatalities.

Performance and Delivery

- Management of the equipment within the process control domain according to the

- prescribed key performance indicators from the process control department.
- Best practice for instrumentation developed within relevant legal and safety frameworks.
- Ensure their sections are always legally compliant.
- Manage critical asset performance to ensure production outcomes are met according to business expectations.
- Maintain infrastructure in a sustainable manner to ensure no indirect risks to production outcome.
- Identify high risk and safety critical areas
- Identify areas of poor availability
- Disseminate best practice in instrumentation aspects
- Audit high risk and safety critical areas
- Analyse and identify problems on the current control solution
- System trouble shooting and hardware problems resolution
- Support on existing instrumentation, networks and hardware
- Calibration and maintenance of all equipment within the control solution
- Adherence to the Anglo Platinum Change

- Procedure
- Adherence to Anglo Platinum Standards
- Schedule and prioritise maintenance tasks
- Control monthly maintenance budgets for process control section
- Assist with commissioning for on-site projects

Compliance

- Ensure compliance with internal and external regulatory and legislative requirements.

Qualifications

- Trade Certificate as an Instrument Mechanician
- National Diploma /BTECH in Instrumentation or Electrical

Experience

- 3 years relevant work experience

Technical Knowledge and Skills

- Experience in processing environment will be advantageous
- Advanced computer literacy
- Valid driving licence

Instrumentation Mechanician

Number of positions: 2  
Location of position: Mortimer Smelter

Job Description

Purpose of the Role

- The Instrumentation Mechanician is responsible for providing dedicated technical and operational systems support to the process division.
- The role requires a degree of competence in instrumentation used in highly automated plants.
- The role is further responsible to ensure that all systems are maintained and optimised to ensure that the capacity to the production process is maximised.

Job responsibilities include (but are not limited to):  
Support the achievement of the operational plan:

- Identify areas of poor availability
- Disseminate best practice in instrumentation aspects
- System trouble shooting and hardware problems resolution
- Support on existing instrumentation
- Calibration and maintenance of all equipment within the control solution
- Adherence to the Anglo Platinum Change Procedure
- Adherence to Anglo Platinum Standards

Good employee relations

- Ensuring effective teamwork
- Identify potential conflict situations and minimize the implications of possible conflict
- Ensure that subordinates have clear work expectations and plans
- Conduct on the job induction

- Support, coach and participate in the training and development of subordinates and apprentices
- Effective two-way open communication with subordinates and line supervisor
- Report at risk behavior, incidents and injuries
- Interacting with other departments
- Advising defects and abnormalities to appropriate supervisor or manager

Qualifications

- Relevant Trade Certificate
- Grade 12

Experience

- Two years’ Experience

Knowledge and Skills

- Basic computer literacy (Word/Excel/Outlook/ SAP R3)
- English literate
- Good decision Making
- Valid driving license

Boilermaker Plater

Number of positions: 4  
Location of position: Mortimer Smelter

Job Description

Job responsibilities include (but are not limited to):

Achievement of safe production performance levels through the effective maintenance of equipment

- Attend and conduct Safety meeting
- Conducts and participate in Risk assessments
- Allocate tasks to subordinates
- Attend to Breakdowns and emergencies as required
- Ensure that material, spares and equipment are available as required
- Ensure proper and adequate on the job training and coaching is provided to subordinates
- Comply to environmental requirements
- Exercise judgment with regards to

- replacement of components
- Maintains a high quality of work
- Timely and accurate information
- Records results of all legal examinations in the appropriate format
- Works in a sequence that prioritizes work requirements
- Completing job cards and description of work and spares used (PM’s)
- Performing work to the required standards and specifications
- Applying appropriate tools to complete tasks

Good employee relations

- Ensuring effective teamwork
- Identify potential conflict situations and minimize the implications of possible conflict
- Ensure that subordinates have clear work expectations and plans
- Conduct on the job induction
- Support, coach and participate in the training and development of subordinates and apprentices
- Effective two way open communication with

- subordinates and line supervisor
- Report at risk behavior, incidents and injuries
- Interacting with other departments
- Advising defects and abnormalities to appropriate supervisor or manager
- Recommend employees suitable for career developing

Qualifications

- Grade 12 or Technical Trade Specific N2
- Boilermaker Trade Certificate
- Coded Welding certification will be advantageous

Experience

- 2 years post trade experience

Knowledge and Skills

- English literate (speak, read and write)
- Must be able to do standby and overtime
- Must be familiar with risk assessments procedures
- Valid driving license
- Basic Computer Skills

Closing date:  
22 January 2026

Continued on next page.



## Valterra Platinum Vacancies

### Company Description

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### Additional information

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- Meaningful work in a high-performance, values-led environment.
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  - Opportunities for learning, development and progression.
  - A culture that respects diversity and encourages innovation.
  - A clear commitment to safe Operations.

## Electrician SF

Number of positions: 3  
Location of position: Mortimer Smelter

### Job Description

- Job responsibilities include (but are not limited to):**
- Achievement of safe production performance levels through the effective maintenance of equipment**
- Attend and conduct Safety meetings
  - Conducts and participate in Risk assessments
  - Allocate tasks to subordinates
  - Attend to Breakdowns and emergencies as required
  - Ensure that material, spares and equipment are available as required
  - Ensure proper and adequate on the job training and coaching is provided to subordinates
  - Comply to environmental requirements

- Exercise judgment with regards to replacement of components
- Maintains a high quality of work
- Timely and accurate information
- Records results of all legal examinations in the appropriate format
- Works in a sequence that prioritizes work requirements
- Completing job cards and description of work and spares used (PM’s)
- Performing work to the required standards and specifications
- Applying appropriate tools to complete tasks

### Good employee relations

- Ensuring effective teamwork
- Identify potential conflict situations and minimize the implications of possible conflict
- Ensure that subordinates have clear work expectations and plans
- Conduct on the job induction
- Support, coach and participate in the training and development of subordinates and

- apprentices
- Effective two-way open communication with subordinates and line supervisor
- Report on risk behavior, incidents and injuries
- Interacting with other departments
- Advising defects and abnormalities to appropriate supervisor or manager

### Qualifications

- Grade 12 and Technical Trade Specific N2
- Electrician Trade Certificate
- MV certificate will be advantageous

### Experience

- Two years post trade experience

### Knowledge and Skills

- English literate (speak, read and write)
- Must be able to do standby and overtime
- Must be familiar with risk assessments procedures
- Valid driving license
- Basic Computer Skills

## Fitter SF

Number of positions: 8  
Location of position: Mortimer Smelter

### Job Description

- Job responsibilities include (but are not limited to):**
- Achievement of safe production performance levels through the effective maintenance of equipment**
- Attend and conduct Safety meeting
  - Conducts and participate in Risk assessments
  - Allocate tasks to subordinates
  - Attend to Breakdowns and emergencies as required
  - Ensure that material, spares and equipment are available as required
  - Ensure proper and adequate on the job training and coaching is provided to subordinates
  - Comply to environmental requirements
  - Exercise judgment with regards to replacement of components
  - Maintains a high quality of work

- Timely and accurate information
- Records results of all legal examinations in the appropriate format
- Works in a sequence that prioritizes work requirements
- Completing job cards and description of work and spares used (PM’s)
- Performing work to the required standards and specifications
- Applying appropriate tools to complete tasks

### Good employee relations

- Ensuring effective teamwork
- Identify potential conflict situations and minimize the implications of possible conflict
- Ensure that subordinates have clear work expectations and plans
- Conduct on the job induction
- Support, coach and participate in the training and development of subordinates and apprentices
- Effective two way open communication with subordinates and line supervisor
- Report at risk behavior, incidents and injuries
- Interacting with other departments
- Advising defects and abnormalities to appropriate supervisor or manager

- Recommend employees suitable for career developing
- This role is at GBF 8 level reporting to the Senior Foreman Mechanical**

### Qualifications

- Grade 12 or Technical Trade Specific N2
- Fitter Trade Certificate
- Certified Competent as Fitter – Section 26D

### Experience

- Two years post trade experience

### Technical Knowledge and Skills

- English literate (speak, read and write)
- Must be able to do standby and overtime
- Must be familiar with risk assessments procedures
- Valid driving license
- Basic Computer Skills

### Additional requirements will include:

- Must be able to do standby, overtime and , if required, shift work.
- Will be required to undergo a Medical Fitness Test

## Processor Grade 3 B2

Number of positions: 8  
Location of position: Converter Plant

### Job Profile

- The Processor Grade 3 is a shift-based entry role, which is required to carry out tasks pertaining to specific work procedures within the section.

### Job Description

- Safety indicators
- Standards conformed to

- Hazards identified and reported
- Incidents reported and followed up
- Participate in investigations
- Housekeeping Standards
- Reacting to abnormal activities and notification of such to the process supervisor
- Support team members if they require assistance
- Perform inspections on equipment
- Start and stop equipment where required
- Provide assistance in breakdowns
- Follow instructions from supervisors carefully
- Apply open two-way communication
- Operate communication equipment
- Carry out basic operational procedures as required/directed Safety, Health, environment and Quality

- Reports completed to required standards
- Complete safety inspections
- Maintain good housekeeping
- Adhere to and improved safety standards
- Report abnormal activities conditions
- Participate in safety meetings
- Identify hazards and threats to the process proactively
- Complete data logging and reporting to standard

### Qualifications

- Grade 12 / NQF 4 – Maths, Science, English

### Experience

- NONE

### Inclusion and Diversity

Valterra Platinum is an equal opportunities employer. We are committed to promoting an inclusive and diverse workplace where we value and respect every colleague for who they are and provide equality of opportunity so that everyone can fulfill their potential. Valtterra Platinum has a zero tolerance to dignity harms, these include all acts of gender-based violence,

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### How to Apply

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Closing date:  
22 January 2026

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# “Poor Planning Turns Electricity Upgrade into New Year Crisis”

## [letter to the editor]

**Platinum Bushvelder newspaper | Thabazimbi** – The new year began on a far from positive note for many Thabazimbi residents, as the municipality’s electricity system changeover proved to be more of a catastrophe than a success. As the new system was implemented on 1 January 2026, a public holiday, numerous households were left without electricity as their meters transitioned to the new platform. For many residents, this caused serious difficulties. A large number of households customarily purchase electricity on the first day of each month, but this time, despite having bought power, they were unable to use it. The reason was that the electricity meter boxes required updating by municipal electrical teams before the new tokens could be read. While households without electricity were reportedly

prioritised, there were simply not enough support teams available to assist residents timeously. As a result, many people were left without power for more than 48 hours. This widespread outage could have been avoided with better planning and execution. It is unreasonable to implement a town-wide system change without sufficient support teams in place to manage the transition effectively. The impact on residents was significant. Thabazimbi is known for its intense summer heat, with daytime temperatures at this time of year often climbing well above 35 °C and frequently pushing into the high 30s. Under these conditions, many households could not even operate a fan. More concerning still, some residents rely on electrically powered medical equipment, placing their health and safety at serious risk. The timing of this failure could hardly have been worse. Schools had just reopened, and families with young children were left trying to cope with

extreme heat, disrupted routines, and no reliable access to electricity or, in many cases, water. Anyone raising children knows how difficult this becomes under normal circumstances — let alone during a heatwave with basic services unavailable. Residents deserve better planning, communication, and service delivery. A system change of this magnitude should not result in households being left without electricity for days, especially during extreme heat and over a public holiday. Unfortunately, this is not a new problem. It is an aging one, and regardless of who occupies the mayoral seat at any given time, the outcome seems depressingly familiar. *(The editor may have removed a few words here and there — understandably so — as it becomes increasingly difficult to remain professional when living in a town that consistently lags behind in providing basic services such as water and electricity.)*

Yours sincerely,  
A concerned Thabazimbi resident





# R600,000 copper cable theft in Thabazimbi – a town already left in the dark

**Platinum Bushvelder newspaper | Thabazimbi** – If you phone someone in Thabazimbi, chances are the conversation will start the same way: “*We don’t have electricity... There’s no water again.*” Speak to a friend who lives there and you’re likely to hear a warning rather than an invitation. It is against this already fragile backdrop that news has emerged of a R600,000 copper cable theft from an Eskom technical office in Marakele — a blow that feels less like an isolated crime and more like a cruel continuation of an ongoing crisis.



Copper cable recovered by police following a business robbery at an Eskom technical facility — a theft that struck a town already battling power and water shortages.

**A town already stretched to breaking point**  
At the start of the year, Thabazimbi residents endured a major changeover to a new electricity system, a process that left many households and businesses without power. Shops struggled to trade, food spoiled, internet connections failed and families sat in darkness, waiting for answers that often did not come. For many, the disruption was not a temporary inconvenience — it compounded months of instability, uncertainty and frustration. And now, on top of all of that, comes the revelation that copper cable worth more than half a million rand was stolen from infrastructure meant to serve the very same community.

**A crime with real consequences**  
Copper theft is not a victimless crime. It translates directly into:

- Longer and more frequent power outages
- Delayed repairs
- Increased costs passed on to the public
- Further strain on an already overstretched electricity system

According to brigadier Hlulani Mashaba, a coordinated tactical operation conducted on Tuesday, 13 January 2026, involving Thabazimbi detectives, Visible Policing units and the Thabazimbi Rural Safety team, led to the arrest of two foreign male suspects in Thabazimbi and Regorogile. Police have

linked the suspects to a business robbery at the Eskom Technical Office in Marakele, where copper cable with an estimated street value of R600,000 was stolen. In a town where electricity and water interruptions are already part of daily life, this theft deepens the sense that residents are paying the price for failures beyond their control.

**Uncomfortable questions that won’t go away**  
The timing of the theft raises troubling questions — questions many residents are already asking openly: How did the perpetrators know what to steal and when to steal it? Was the infrastructure left vulnerable during the system changeover? Are criminal networks exploiting moments when communities are already in the dark — literally and figuratively? While police have arrested suspects linked to the theft, the broader issue remains: why does essential infrastructure seem so easy to target at the very moment it is most needed?




## REPORT ARSON!

If you have information about suspected arson, report it to SAPS. Remember, you’ll need to provide a sworn statement and possibly testify in court. Arson is a serious crime, involving the intentional burning of someone else’s property.

To remain anonymous, call Crime Stop at 08600 10111.

# Firearm negligence case postponed to February 2026

**Platinum Bushvelder newspaper | Thabazimbi** – The Thabazimbi community continues to grapple with the aftermath of a tragic farm accident that claimed the life of a worker and left a young child traumatised. Police confirmed that the 43-year-old father charged with negligent handling of a firearm appeared in court on 12 December 2025. The matter was postponed to 18 February 2026 for further investigation, and the accused remains out on R3,000 bail. The charge relates to a heartbreaking incident that occurred on 11 October 2025, when an 11-year-old child accidentally discharged a firearm on a farm, fatally wounding a worker believed to have been in his thirties. The child is not facing any charges. From the outset, authorities have described the incident as an accident involving a minor, making it an exceptionally sensitive matter. A life was tragically lost, a family is mourning, and a child must now live with the emotional consequences of an event no child should ever experience. Police have reiterated the importance of responsible firearm ownership, stressing that firearms must be securely stored and kept out of reach of children at all times. Out of respect for all those affected, and particularly the minor, *Platinum Bushvelder* will continue to withhold the identities of everyone involved. As the legal process continues, the hope within the community is for accountability, understanding, and ultimately healing after a tragedy that has touched many lives.



# THABAZIMBI

LOCAL MUNICIPALITY | PLAASLIKE MUNISIPALITEIT | MASEPALA WA SELEGAE

Allie korrespondensie moet gerig word aan die Munisipale Bestuurder  
All correspondence must be directed to the Municipal Manager  
Makwalo othe a lebiswe go Mookamedi wa Masepala

Private Bag X530  
Thabazimbi 0380  
Tel: 014 772 2295  
Fax: 014 777 1531  
www.thabazimbi.gov.za

## ADVERTISEMENT:

### CHAIRPERSON: ICT STEERING COMMITTEE, CHAIRPERSON: RISK MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE AND MEMBERS OF AUDIT COMMITTEE

In accordance with Section 166 of the Local Government Municipal Finance Management Act 56 of 2003, Thabazimbi Local Municipality seeks to appoint suitably qualified professionals that will serve as Audit Committee members.

**REQUIREMENTS:** A minimum NQF 7 qualification in Financial Management/ Accounting/ Auditing, Law/ Information Technology/ Engineering/ Town Planning/ Performance Management or Risk Management. 3 years’ experience as an Audit Committee member within Municipalities or Municipal Entities with positive audit outcomes. Must possess dynamic leadership skills. Relevant and extensive experience in Corporate Governance, Financial Management, Auditing, Accounting, Risk Management and Performance Management. Must have a good understanding of the committee position in the governance structure and its role in the accountability ecosystem. Sound knowledge of Local Government legislations (MFMA/ DORA/ Treasury Regulations). Must currently not be serving in more than three Audit Committees

**KEY RESPONSIBILITIES:** Advice Municipal Council, the Political Office- Bearers, the Accounting Officer and the management of the municipality on the matters relating to- (i) Internal financial control and internal audits (ii) Risk Management (iii) Accounting policies (iv) The adequacy, reliability, and accuracy of financial reporting and (v) Performance management (vi) Effective governance (vii) Compliance with this Act, the Annual Division of Revenue Act and any other applicable legislation (viii) Performance evaluation; and (ix) Any other issues referred to it by the municipality. Review the annual financial statements of the municipality. Respond to the municipal council on any issues raised by the Auditor-General in the audit report. Report on quarterly basis, or more frequently if required, to the municipal council in a format outlined in the guidelines issued by the National Treasury. Conduct investigations into the financial affairs of the municipality.

**REMUNERATION AND DURATION OF APPOINTMENT:** Members shall be remunerated according to the tariffs approved by National Treasury. The term of office for the committee shall be for a period of three (3) years.

**PLEASE NOTE:** Please forward your signed application letter, copy of your Curriculum Vitae (CV) and Certified copies of academic qualifications to Attention: Thabazimbi Local Municipality, Municipal Manager, Private Bag X530, Thabazimbi, 0380 or Hand deliver to Thabazimbi Local Municipality, Office of the Municipal Manager, Attention: GC LETSOALO CA(SA), 07 Rietbok Street, Thabazimbi, 0380.

Enquiries: 014 772 2295 (Human Resources)

Correspondence will only be entered into with short listed candidates. If you do not receive notification regarding your application within one (1) month of the closing date. Kindly assume that your application was not successful.

**CLOSING DATE: 30 JANUARY 2026**

GC LETSOALO CA(SA) | Municipal Manager - Thabazimbi Local Municipality

NOTICE NUMBER: 01/2026

# Police Intercept Illegal Gun Sale in Thabazimbi

**Platinum Bushvelder newspaper | Thabazimbi** – A 30-year-old man appeared before the Thabazimbi Magistrate’s Court on Thursday, 8 January 2026, after being arrested for possession of an unlicensed firearm and ammunition in Thabazimbi. According to brigadier Hlulani Mashaba, the arrest was made on Tuesday afternoon, 6 January, at approximately 15:00, next to the Thabazimbi Local Municipality. Police were conducting Safer Festive Season operations in the Waterberg District when they received information about a man allegedly carrying an illegal firearm and intending to sell it to an unknown individual in the area. Officers proceeded to the location and identified a suspect matching the description provided. The man was found carrying a school bag.



The unlicensed firearm and live ammunition seized by police during the arrest near the Thabazimbi Local Municipality building.

A search of the bag led to the discovery of an unlicensed firearm and a magazine containing eleven live rounds of ammunition. The suspect was unable to produce a valid licence for the firearm or ammunition and was arrested at the scene. Police say investigations are continuing and no further details about the intended sale or possible accomplices have been confirmed at this stage.

# TAR really needs your help

**Thabazimbi** – There is a special plea to the community of Thabazimbi to support Thabazimbi Animal Rescue (TAR), your local animal shelter. TAR needs donations of food. The facility is filled with animals that need your help. Please assist TAR to feed the animals in their care. Without donations they will not be able to feed, home and medically treat the animals. The community has proven time and again how they can stand together and support this worthy cause and this time is no exception. For more information, please contact TAR on 084 885 6487.





HOËRSKOOI FRIKKIE MEYER BIED AAN



Afri Ready Mix

Netbaltoernooi

BETER AS NET DIE BESTE - DIS B-SPAN TYD!



Jy's uitgenooi! Kom vier ongelooflike talent, spangees en deursettingsvermoë van B-spanne by HFM se opwindende netbaltoernooi.

2 – 4 April 2026

Die Hoërskool Frikkie Meyer, Limpopo

Hier is dit nie net die A's wat saakmaak nie – die B-spanne bring balans, bravade en baie trots. Kom geniet goeie en gesonde netbal in die hartjie van die Bosveld.

Vir meer inligting kontak Anmarie 073 412 2426 / hfmnetbal@gmail.com



FIND US ON FACEBOOK

@PLATINUM BUSHVELDER

NOTICE ON THE AVAILABILITY OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL AUDIT REPORTS AS CONTEMPLATED IN TERMS OF REGULATION 34 OF REGULATIONS UNDER THE NEMA OF 1998 THUNGELA OPERATIONS PROPRIETARY LIMITED): LEPHALALE COALBED METHANE (LCBM) PROJECT

This notice provides information to Interested and Affected Parties ("I&APs") on the availability of Environmental Audit Reports.

**BACKGROUND**

As per the requirements contained in Regulation 34 of the Environmental Impact Assessment ("EIA") Regulations, 2014 (as amended) published in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) ("NEMA"), external Environmental Audits were undertaken in 2025 for the following Environmental Management Programme reports (EMPRs) and Environmental Authorisations (EAs) of the following operations:

1. Lephalele Coalbed Methane (LCBM) Exploration Project (PASA Reference Numbers: No.: 12/3/002; LEDET Reference: 12/1/9-7/(i)-W1)

NTC Group (Pty) Limited was appointed as the independent environmental auditor, and the environmental audits were undertaken in terms of Regulation 34 of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014 (GNR 982, 4 December 2014) as amended. Pinsent Masons South Africa Inc fulfilled the role of independent legal auditor and reviewed the Environmental Audit Reports from a legal perspective.

The objectives of the environmental audits were to provide findings on:

(a) the level of compliance with the provisions of the requisite environmental authorisation(s), Environmental Management Programme report(s) ("EMPr(s)"), and closure plans in the case of a closure activity, and (b) the ability of the measures contained in the EMPr(s) and closure plan, to sufficiently provide for the avoidance, management and mitigation of the environmental impacts associated with the undertaking of the activity (hereafter referred to as the "adequacy of the EMPr(s)").

**LEGISLATIVE REQUIREMENTS**

Regulation 34(6) of the EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended) state the following:

(6) Within 7 days of the date of submission of an environmental audit report to the competent authority, the holder of an environmental authorisation must notify all potential and registered I&APs of the submission of that report, and make such report immediately available:

(a) to anyone on request; and (b) on a publicly accessible website, where the holder has such a website.

In order to fulfil the above requirements of Regulation 34(6), the Environmental Audit Report is made available to the public.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

The Environmental Audit Report is available in electronic format on the Thungela Resources website (<https://www.thungela.com>) and can be requested from the below contact detail.

**ENVIRONMENTAL COAL COMMUNICATIONS**

Email: [Environmental.Communications@thungela.com](mailto:Environmental.Communications@thungela.com) | Tel: 011 638 9300



PLATINUM BUSHVELDER



WANT TO PLACE AN ADVERT?

CALL 014 592 3257



A pangolin, one of the most trafficked and endangered mammals in the world.

HELP

Protect the Endangered Pangolin

If you've spotted one or witnessed suspicious activity, such as someone attempting to sell or trade it illegally, report it immediately.

Simply snap a photo of the animal, note its location, and send the details to the *Pangolert* number:

072 726 4654

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO SUBMIT AN APPLICATION IN TERMS OF SECTION 43 OF THE MINERAL AND PETROLEUM RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT ACT, 2002 FOR THE CLOSURE OF A PROSPECTING RIGHT

Notice is given, in terms of Section 43 of the MPRDA, read together with sections 57 of the Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Regulations, 2004 that Imerys Refractory Minerals (Pty) Ltd: Rhino Andalusite Mine is submitting an application for a closure certificate for a prospecting right.

**Applicant:** Imerys Refractory Minerals (Pty) Ltd: Rhino Andalusite Mine

**Location of the activities:** The Remainder of Portion 4 of the farm Buffelshoek 351 KQ and the Remainder of Portion 1 of the farm Grootfontein 352 KQ.

**Nature of proposed activity, applicable legislation, and listed activity applied for:** Prior to the proposed closure of a prospecting right, the mine is required to submit a closure application in terms of Section 43(3) of the MPRDA.

**Competent authority and relevant reference number:** Department of Mineral and Petroleum Resources: Polokwane Office Reference number: LP674PR

**Additional information:** Letters are sent to all I&APs and stakeholders on the 15 January 2026. A site notice will be placed at the site on the 15 January 2026. Parties wishing to comment or to be registered as interested and affected parties are requested to forward their objections and comments (*with reasons*), no later than **thirty (30) days** after the publication of this advertisement (16 February 2026), to the details given below.

**Register as an interested and affected party (I&AP):** To register as an I&AP of this project, to obtain more information, or submit comments, please request a Registration Form from BECS Services and return it with the details provided below before 16 February 2026.

**Contact details for more information:** To obtain additional information, please contact the EAP at the details provided below. BECS Services (Pty) Ltd, Miles Longhurst: 082 726 29 47, [miles@becsenv.co.za](mailto:miles@becsenv.co.za) | Salome Beeslaar (responsible EAP): 072 191 6074, [salome@becsenv.co.za](mailto:salome@becsenv.co.za) (EAPASA Reg. No. 2020/847)

KENNISGEWING VAN DIE VOORNEME OM 'N AANSOEK IN TERME VAN ARTIKEL 43 VAN DIE WET OP MINERALE EN PETROLEUM HULPBRONNE ONTWIKKELING, NO 28 VAN 2002 (SOOS AANGEPAS) IN TE DIEN VIR DIE SLUITING VAN 'N PROSPEKTERINGSREG

Kennis word Hiermee gegee, in terme van Artikel 43 van die MPRDA, saamgelees met Artikel 57 van die Ontwikkeling van Minerale- en Petroleumhulpbronne Regulasies, 2004, dat Imerys Refractory Minerals (Edms) Bpk: Rhino Andalusite myn 'n aansoek om 'n sluitings sertifikaat vir 'n prospekteringsreg indien.

**Aansoeker:** Imerys Refractory Minerals (Edms) Ltd: Rhino Andalusite Myn

**Ligging van die aktiwiteite:** Die restant van gedeelte 4 van die plaas Buffelshoek 351 KQ en die restant van gedeelte 1 van die plaas Grootfontein 352 KQ.

**Aard van die voorgestelde gelyste aktiwiteite, en toepaslike wetgewing, gedoen voor:** Voor die voorgestelde sluiting van 'n prospekterreg word dit van die myn vereis om 'n sluitingsaansoek in te dien in terme an Artikel 43(3) van die MPRDA.

**Bevoegde gesag en betrokke verwysingsnommer:** Departement van Minerale-en Petroleumbronne: Polokwane kantoor Verwysingsnommer: LP674PR

**Addisionele inligting:** Briewe word aan alle belangstellende en geaffekteerde partye (I&APs) gestuur op 15 Januarie 2026. 'n Terreinkennisgewing word by die my geplaas op 15 Januarie 2026. Partye wat kommentaar wil lewer of as I&APs geregistreer wil word, word versoek om hul besware en kommentaar (met redes), nie later as **dertig (30) dae** na die publikasie van hierdie advertensie (16 Februarie 2026), aan die onderstaande besonderhede te stuur.

**Registreer as 'n I&AP:** Om as 'n I&AP van hierdie projek te registreer, meer inligting te verkry, of kommentaar te lewer, versoek asseblief 'n registrasievorm vanaf BECS en stuur dit terug na die besonderhede hieronder voorsien, voor of op 16 Februarie 2026.

**Kontak besonderhede vir meer informasie:** Om bykomende inligting te bekom, kontak asseblief die EAP by die besonderhede hieronder verskaf. BECS Services (Edms) Bpk, Miles Longhurst: 082 726 29 47, [miles@becsenv.co.za](mailto:miles@becsenv.co.za)

Salome Beeslaar (verantwoordelike EAP): 072 191 6074, [salome@becsenv.co.za](mailto:salome@becsenv.co.za) (EAPASA Reg. No. 2020/847)

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Notice is given, in terms of Section 43 of the MPRDA, read together with sections 57 of the Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Regulations, 2004 that Imerys Refractory Minerals (Pty) Ltd: Rhino Andalusite Mine is submitting an application for a closure certificate for a prospecting right.

**Applicant:** Imerys Refractory Minerals (Pty) Ltd: Rhino Andalusite Mine

**Location of the activities:** Portion 5 of the farm Tygerkloof 354 KQ

**Nature of proposed activity, applicable legislation, and listed activity applied for:** Prior to the proposed closure of a prospecting right, the mine is required to submit a closure application in terms of Section 43(3) of the MPRDA.

**Competent authority and relevant reference number:** Department of Mineral and Petroleum Resources: Polokwane Office Reference number: LP925PR

**Additional information:** Letters are sent to all I&APs and stakeholders on 15 February 2026. A site notice will be placed at the site on 15 February 2026. Parties wishing to comment or to be registered as interested and affected parties are requested to forward their objections and comments (*with reasons*), no later than **thirty (30) days** after the publication of this advertisement (16 February 2026), to the details given below.

**Register as an interested and affected party (I&AP):** To register as an I&AP of this project, to obtain more information, or submit comments, please request a Registration Form from BECS Services and return it with the details provided below before 16 February 2026.

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**Aansoeker:** Imerys Refractory Minerals (Edms) Ltd: Rhino Andalusite Myn

**Ligging van die aktiwiteite:** Gedeelte 5 van die plaas Tygerkloof 354 KQ

**Aard van die voorgestelde gelyste aktiwiteite, en toepaslike wetgewing, gedoen voor:** Voor die voorgestelde sluiting van 'n prospekterreg word dit van die myn vereis om 'n sluitingsaansoek in te dien in terme an Artikel 43(3) van die MPRDA.

**Bevoegde gesag en betrokke verwysingsnommer:** Departement van Minerale-en Petroleumbronne: Polokwane kantoor Verwysingsnommer: LP925PR

**Addisionele inligting:** Briewe word aan alle belangstellende en geaffekteerde partye (I&APs) gestuur op 15 Januarie 2026. 'n Terreinkennisgewing word by die my geplaas op 15 Januarie 2026. Partye wat kommentaar wil lewer of as I&APs geregistreer wil word, word versoek om hul besware en kommentaar (met redes), nie later as **dertig (30) dae** na die publikasie van hierdie advertensie (16 Februarie 2026), aan die onderstaande besonderhede te stuur.

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**Kontak besonderhede vir meer informasie:**

**Om bykomende inligting te bekom, kontak asseblief die EAP by die besonderhede hieronder verskaf. BECS Services (Edms) Bpk, Miles Longhurst: 082 726 29 47, [miles@becsenv.co.za](mailto:miles@becsenv.co.za) | Salome Beeslaar (verantwoordelike EAP): 072 191 6074, [salome@becsenv.co.za](mailto:salome@becsenv.co.za) (EAPASA Reg. No. 2020/847)**



# Waar die Bosveld praat

Brief van die Redakteur – Myrtle van Zyl

Soos die son weer oor die Bosveld opkom, begin ons met dankbaarheid ons eerste uitgawe van 2026.

Ná die rus van die vakansietyd is ons almal weer veilig terug, reg om met nuwe energie vorentoe te beweeg. Skole se deure het oopgegaan, besighede begin weer stoom rol, en die ritme van die daaglikse lewe is terug waar dit hoort.

Die *Platinum Bushvelder* koerant klop in pas met sy gemeenskap — 'n gemeenskap van hartsmense, harde werkers en diep wortels. Ons koerant is weer vol aan die gang met nuus wat saak maak. Bly op hoogte, en indien u wil adverteer, nooi ons u uit om met ons kontak te maak.

Ons verhouding met ons gemeenskap is vir ons kosbaar. Baie dankie vir elke bydrae, elke berig en elke wenk wat ingestuur word. Saam vertel ons die stories van Thabazimbi, Northam, Regorogile en al die omliggende dele. Dankie dat u deel is van ons storie. Saam bly ons die stem van die Bosveld en sy mense. Die Bosveld leef — en sy mense maak dit besonders. Mag God ons almal ryklik seën in 2026.



# Where the voice of the Bushveld speaks

Letter from the Editor – Myrtle van Zyl

As the sun rises once again over the Bushveld, we begin our first edition of 2026 with gratitude. After the rest of the holiday season, we are all safely back, ready to move forward with renewed energy. School doors have opened, businesses are gaining momentum, and the rhythm of everyday life has returned to where it belongs.

The Platinum Bushvelder newspaper beats in step with its community — a community of warm-hearted people, hard workers, and deep-rooted values. Our newspaper is once again fully underway, bringing you news that matters. Stay informed, and should you wish to advertise, we invite you to contact us.

Our relationship with our community is precious to us. Thank you for every contribution, every story, and every news tip submitted. Together, we tell the stories of Thabazimbi, Northam, Regorogile, and all the surrounding areas.

Thank you for being part of our story. Together, we remain the voice of the Bushveld and its people. The Bushveld lives — and its people make it special. May God richly bless us all in 2026.

# Waar sirenes en Kersliggies saamklink

*Platinum Bushvelder koerant* | *Thabazimbi* se strate het op 20 Desember 2025 behoorlik geblink en geblom toe Thaba Fire & Rescue hul jaarlikse Kerspatrollie aangepak het – en dit was méér as net 'n rit deur die dorp. Met noodvoertuie pragtig versier met Kersliggies het die patrollie 'n ware feesatmosfeer geskep en die Kersgees letterlik straat vir straat versprei. Die vrolike liggies en bekende sirenes het inwoners laat uitloer, waai en glimlag – 'n eenvoudige, maar kragtige herinnering aan gemeenskapsgees en samehörigheid. 'n Hoogtepunt van die aand was die besoek aan die plaaslike ouetehuis, waar inwoners die geleentheid saam met die lede van Thaba Fire & Rescue geniet het.

Een van Thaba Fire & Rescue se noodvoertuie, feestelik opgetower met blink gepoets, gereed om Kersvreugde én veiligheid in die gemeenskap te versprei.



## SOULFOOD

1 JOHN 4:20-21

If someone says, “I love God,” and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen, how can he love God whom he has not seen? And this commandment we have from Him: that he who loves God *must* love his brother also.



NEW KING JAMES VERSION (NKJV)

1	5					6	
	8			9			3
			6	2		8	
	9	3		6			4
		8	5		1		6
5			3		7		
	6						4
			3			9	5
8		5	4		9		

## SUDOKU

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## HAVE YOUR SAY

Do you think Australia is wise to ban social media for children under 16?

As of 10 December 2025, Australia became the first country to bar under-16s from having accounts on major platforms like Instagram, TikTok and YouTube, citing mental-health and safety risks. What's your take?



“I fully support the ban. Children should not be exposed to adult content at such a young age. Social media can be harmful, addictive, and linked to cyberbullying, which has contributed to self-harm and suicide among children.”

Beverley Spira Kühn, Thabazimbi



“I strongly agree with Australia's decision. Children are increasingly glued to their phones and spending less time playing or being active. A ban could help reduce addiction and encourage healthier, more balanced lifestyles.”

Segametsi Tserema, Thabazimbi

## PUBLIC POLL: THE RESULTS ARE IN!

Do you think Australia is wise to ban social media for children under 16?

NO **2%** YES **98%**



Stuur jou event na [news@platinumbushvelder.co.za](mailto:news@platinumbushvelder.co.za) \*\* Gratis Plasing!

## PLATINUM DAGBOEK

### Afri Ready Mix Netbaltoernooi

Datum: Donderdag 2 – Saterdag 4 April 2026

Hoërskool Frikkie Meyer nooi jou uit na 'n opwindende Afri Ready Mix Netbaltoernooi waar B-spanne wys dat passie, talent en deurstellingsvermoë net soveel saak maak. Verwag kompeterende wedstryde, spangees en netbal van hoë gehalte in 'n energieke, positiewe atmosfeer. Hierdie toernooi vier balans, bravade en trots – en bring netbal se hartklop lewendig in die Bosveld. Venue: Hoërskool Frikkie Meyer | Kontak: Anmarie – 073 412 2426 | hfmnetbal@gmail.com

### Galentine's Sunset Sip 'n Paint

Date: Friday, 13 February 2026 | 18:30

Celebrate sisterhood, friendship, and feel-good vibes at the Galentine's Sunset Sip 'n Paint. This relaxed evening is all about fun over perfection—sip sparkling mimosas, enjoy light snacks, socialise, and create your own canvas masterpiece to take home. Set against a sunset backdrop, it's the perfect pink-and-red themed night out with your favourite hype-women. Location: Kameeldoring Oasis

## POLL

### Do you think money can buy happiness?

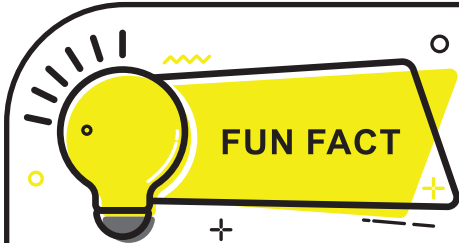
A bigger paycheck can buy freedom, comfort, and choice – but can it buy joy, love, or peace of mind? As the cost of living rises and hustle culture thrives, we ask: does money unlock happiness, or just distract us from what really matters?

Here's how you can participate. Email us at [news@platinumbushvelder.co.za](mailto:news@platinumbushvelder.co.za) or WhatsApp your response to 081 579 7000.

Include the following:

- **Your answer:** Yes or No
- **Why?** We want to hear from you!
- **A recent photo** – We'd love to publish your pic alongside your answer!
- **Your town/city**
- **Deadline** – Be sure to send your response before 12:00 on Monday, 19 January 2026.

**Vote results:** The outcome of the poll will be featured in our next issue. Be a part of our community's story!  
**P.S.:** Don't forget, you can also voice your opinion on our Facebook post about this topic. Join the conversation!



### Did you know?

**FLOATING GIANTS ABOVE US...** A single cloud can weigh more than a million tonnes, even though it appears light and weightless in the sky. Large clouds, such as cumulus clouds, are made of billions of tiny water droplets and ice crystals. Each droplet is extremely small, but together they add up to an enormous mass. Clouds float because the droplets are spread out and supported by rising air currents, allowing something incredibly heavy to remain suspended above Earth.





## Rugba nuus



### European Challenge Cup

#### UITSLAE

- Saterdag 10 Januarie**
- Benetton 74-21 Dragons
  - Cardiff 32-13 Racing 92
  - Lions 42-33 Lyon OU
  - Newcastle Falcons 26-19 USA Perpignan
  - US Montauban 28-31 Black Lion
  - Stade Francais 27-25 Exeter Chiefs
- Saterdag 11 Januarie**
- Cheetahs (Canceled) Ulster
  - Zebre 23-19 Ospreys
  - Montpellier Herault 33-31 Connacht

#### BEPALINGS

- Vrydag 16 Januarie**
- Dragons 22:00 Newcastle Falcons
- Saterdag 17 Januarie**
- Ulster 15:00 Stade Francais
  - Black Lion 15:00 Zebre
  - USAP Perpignan 19:30 Lions
  - Connacht 22:00 US Montauban
  - Ospreys 22:00 Montpellier Herault
- Sondag 18 Januarie**
- Exeter Chiefs 15:00 Benetton
  - Racing 92 19:30 Cheetahs



### Investec Champions Cup

#### UITSLAE

- Vrydag 19 Januarie**
- Edinburgh 26-24 Gloucester
  - Castres Olympique 20:34 Bath
- Saterdag 10 Januarie**
- Leicester Tigers 57-14 Aviron Bayonnais
  - Scarlets 38-47 Section Paloise
  - Sale Sharks 26-10 Sharks
  - Leinster 25-24 La Rochelle
  - ASM Clermont 21-33 Glasgow Warriors
  - Bulls 49-61 Bristol Bears
- Sondag 11 Januarie**
- Saracens 20-14 Stade Toulousain
  - Union Bordeaux-Begles 50-28 Northampton Saints
  - Toulon 27-25 Munster
  - Harlequins 61-10 Stormers

#### BEPALINGS

- Vrydag 16 Januarie**
- Section Paloise 22:00 Bulls
- Bath 22:00 Edinburgh**
- Saterdag 17 Januarie**
- Sharks 15:00 ASM Clermont
  - Aviron Bayonnais 17:15 Leinster
  - Stormers 17:15 Leicester Tigers
  - Stade Toulousain 19:30 Sale Sharks
  - Munster 19:30 Castres Olympique
  - Gloucester 22:00 Toulon
- Sondag 18 Januarie**
- Bristol Bears 15:00 Union Bordeaux-Begles
  - Northampton Saints 17:15 Scarlets
  - La Rochelle 17:15 Harlequins
  - Glasgow Warriors 19:30 Saracens

Nag ou grote...

# BEK-EN-KLOUSEER

## 'n Groot bedreiging vir ons omgewing - mens, dier en ekonomie

**Platinum Bushvelder koerant | Matlabas** – Bek-en-Klouseer (BKS), 'n hoogs aansteeklike siekte, hou tans 'n ernstige risiko vir die plaaslike gemeenskap sowel as die breër Suid-Afrikaanse landbou-ekonomie in. Die Matlabas-gebied steun sterk op bees-, wild-, en jagbedrywe, met verwante organisasies wat direk afhanklik is van gesonde diere en wettige, verantwoordelike bewegings. Om die verdere verspreiding van die siekte te beperk en die gebied so lank as moontlik veilig te hou, is 'n omvattende bek-en-klouseer protokol in werking gestel. Doeltreffende beheer berus op streng biosekuriteitsmaatreëls, verantwoordelike dierehantering en die aktiewe samewerking van die hele gemeenskap.

**'n Aanmeldbare siekte met verreikende gevolge**  
Bek-en-Klouseer raak alle gesplete-hoef diere, insluitend beeste, skape, bokke en verskeie wildsoorte. Kenmerkende simptome sluit pynlike sere in die mond en aan die hoeve in. Die siekte is wetlik aanmeldbaar en enige vermoede van 'n geval moet onmiddellik gerapporteer word. 'n Groot risiko met bek-en-klouseer is dat diere in die vroeë stadium van infeksie geen sigbare simptome toon nie. Gedurende die inkubasietydperk van tot 14 dae kan 'n oënskynlik gesonde dier reeds ander diere besmet. Dit is juis in hierdie fase waar permitte verkeerdelik uitgereik kan



word. Wanneer 'n geval later bevestig word, lei dit dikwels tot die afdwinging van 'n 10 km-beperkingsone, met ernstige finansiële- en operasionele gevolge vir die hele gebied.

**Basiese voorsorg- en biosekuriteitsmaatreëls**  
Boere en grondeienaars word versoek om toegang tot hul eiendomme streng te beheer. Alle voertuie wat plase binnegaan of verlaat, moet by hekke gesteriliseer word. Funksionele voetbaddens vir besoekers en werkers is noodsaaklik, en slegs goedgekeurde ontsmettingsmiddels soos F10, ACT, Virkon en sitroensuur, moet gebruik word. 'n Besoekersregister by elke hek is verpligtend en voertuie uit besmette gebiede word nie toegelaat nie. Alle plase en diere moet geregistreer wees by Buffalo Analytics (sien inligting by kontakbesonderhede) om doeltreffende naspeurbaarheid te verseker.

**Beheer van vee- en wildbewegings**  
Die invoer van gesplete-hoef diere van buite die Matlabas-gebied word sterk ontmoedig. Waar verskuiwing wel noodsaaklik is, moet alle vereiste permitte vooraf verkry word. Diere mag slegs binne die gebied verskuif word, met geldige permitte en alle bewegings moet tot die minimum beperk word. Enige voertuig wat lewendehawe sonder die korrekte dokumentasie vervoer, moet onmiddellik aangemeld word.

**Rapportering is noodsaaklik**  
Alle verdagte-, onwettige- of hoë risiko lewendehawe bewegings moet sonder versuim by roetekoördineerders, die Matlabas-, Welgevonden- of Palala-beheerkamers, of direk by die aangewese kontakpersoon gerapporteer word. Inligting soos ligging, tyd en rigting van beweging, voertuigregistrasie en -beskrywing asook die tipe- en geskatte aantal diere moet verskaf word om vinnige opvolg moontlik te maak.

**Veeartsenykundige vereistes**  
Streng Veeartsenykundige protokolle geld vir die verskuiwing van diere binne die gebied. Dit sluit in:

- Bek- en foto dokumentasie deur 'n bevoegde persoon
- 'n Verpligte 14-dae inkubasietydperk met opvolgondersoek
- Goedkeuring deur 'n plaaslike veearts en die staatsveearts
- 'n Geldige vervoerpermit

Hierdie proses kan elektronies gefasiliteer word, of deur privaat en staatsveeartse hanteer word.

**'n Gemeenskap wat saamstaan, bly beskerm**  
Belanghebbendes word aangemoedig om by die Matlabas bek-en-klouseer WhatsApp-groep aan te sluit. Hierdie groep dien as 'n gesentraliseerde platform vir betroubare, gebiedspesifieke inligting, insluitend opdatings oor die siekte,

Healthy cattle grazing in the Matlabas area. Foot-and-mouth disease poses a serious threat to livestock, wildlife and the local agricultural economy.

voorkomingsmaatreëls en belangrike kennisgewings. “Die enigste manier om jouself te beveilig, is om jou gemeenskap te beveilig,” beklemtoon die koördineerders. Volgehoue samewerking, waaksamheid en verantwoordelike optrede bly noodsaaklik om die groter Matlabas-gebied veilig, funksioneel en ekonomies volhoubaar te hou.

**Kontakbesonderhede vir meer inligting:**

- Skakel in by Matlabas Custodians: Jackie Theunissen – 078 627 7816
- Buffalo Analytics permitte en administrasie: Steffi – 063 798 1587 Carolien – 079 408 1675 [www.buffalo.vet](http://www.buffalo.vet)
- Bek-en-Klouseer inligting of aanmelding van moontlike gevalle: Jou naaste veearts, of Dr. Ampie Viljoen – 083 264 6771 Dr. Louis Greef – 083 805 8929
- Anonieme inligting oor onaangemelde gevalle of vervoer sonder permitte: Matlabas Beheersentrum – 083 260 0794

# Prina Super Cup unites Thabazimbi

**Platinum Bushvelder newspaper | Thabazimbi** – The Prina Super Cup (O Wara Fela) Community Tournament once again proved that football is more than a game. Held from 26 to 31 December 2025 at Sports For All, Regorogile, the annual tournament brought the Thabazimbi community together in a vibrant celebration of sport. Teams representing Extension 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 9, Ipelegeng, Matikiring, and Maphusumane competed fiercely, drawing spectators who turned out in large numbers to support local talent during the festive season. Beyond the goals and trophies, the Prina Super Cup carried a clear social mission: to unite the community and keep young people safe and active, steering them away from the streets and negative influences. The tournament also plays a vital role in addressing social challenges such as alcohol and drug abuse, teenage pregnancy, HIV/AIDS, STIs, and other risks facing young people. The event was graced by senior leadership, including the Thabazimbi Local Municipality mayor Cllr Pilane, the municipal speaker, and several local councillors. Adding national stature to the occasion, Sanny Ndlovu, a Member



of the South African National Parliament, attended to show support for grassroots community initiatives.

**Champions, Stars, and Rising Talent**  
After days of thrilling football, Matikiring emerged as the overall champions, lifting the trophy and walking away with R4,000, medals, and well-deserved bragging rights.

**Final Standings (main competition):**

1. Matikiring – winners (R4,000, trophy, and medals)
2. Maphusumane – Runners-up (R3,000, trophy, and medals)
3. Extension 6 – Third place (R1,000, trophy, and medals)

**Plate Competition:**

- Plate winners: Extension 1
- Plate runners-up: Extension 6


**Individual Awards**

- Top Goal Scorer: Thomas “Kabelo Hendrick” Kanapi (Matikiring) – 3 goals
- Player of the Tournament: Mbuzo (Extension 9), 15 years old, with three Man of the Match awards
- Goalkeeper of the Tournament: Freddy (Extension 5) – five clean sheets
- Coach of the Tournament: Tumi (Matikiring), celebrating an incredible five consecutive tournament victories

### Gratitude to Sponsors and the Community


Tournament founder and organiser Kebareng Jan Kanapi (Prina) expressed heartfelt appreciation to all role players, teams, and the supporters who filled the stands. He gave special thanks to local sponsors whose contributions made the tournament possible, including MALMIK Logistics and Construction, Andru Mining, High Point, Rhino Mine, Tseopa Holdings, Thabazimbi Ford, and Tshananka Engineering and Mining Supplies. level of professional football in our country.






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## Thabazimbi Rides for Hope

**Platinum Bushvelder newspaper | Thabazimbi** – In February 2026, Thabazimbi will roar with more than motorbike engines — it will echo with hope.

The “Ride for a Child” charity motorbike event, organised by Pediatric Care Africa, is changing course this year for one very special reason: Caleb, a baby from Nelspruit born with a rare and severe brain condition that causes relentless seizures. Surgery is his only chance.

On Monday, 16 February 2026, the riders arrive in Thabazimbi as part of this national fundraising journey. The following day, Tuesday, 17 February, they will visit a local orphanage — a reminder that this ride is about children, community, and standing together when it matters most.

Unlike previous years, the 2026 ride is not about distance, but direction — focusing all energy on raising funds for Caleb’s life-saving brain surgery in Cape Town. Every rand raised goes directly to his verified BackaBuddy campaign to help cover medical, travel, and recovery costs.

Bikers, businesses, families and residents are encouraged to take note now, spread the word, and get ready to support when the riders roll in. Because when Thabazimbi shows up, it shows up strong — and for Caleb, that strength could mean a future.

**For more information or to get involved, visit [www.pediatriccareafrika.org](http://www.pediatriccareafrika.org) or contact 076 229 5663.**



Dr. André Hattingh, founder and chairman of Pediatric Care Africa, on his powerful Road King Harley Davidson – leading the Ride for a Child mission with purpose and passion.





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**15<sup>99</sup>**

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