



ROBUST

MARCH 2021 MURRAY & ROBERTS GROUP MAGAZINE

EMERGING FROM THE PANDEMIC STRONGER THAN BEFORE

EVEN THOUGH THE CURRENT FINANCIAL YEAR IS A CHALLENGING ONE, THE GROUP IS ENCOURAGED BY THE SIGNIFICANT GROWTH IN ITS ORDER BOOK TO ALL-TIME-HIGH LEVELS.

THE ROBUST EXCHANGE

MIKE WELLS AND SIBULELE SONGCA TALK ABOUT THEIR CAREER HIGHLIGHTS AND CHALLENGES.

NEWS

COLLABORATION, INNOVATION AND A WORLD-CLASS SAFETY PERFORMANCE.

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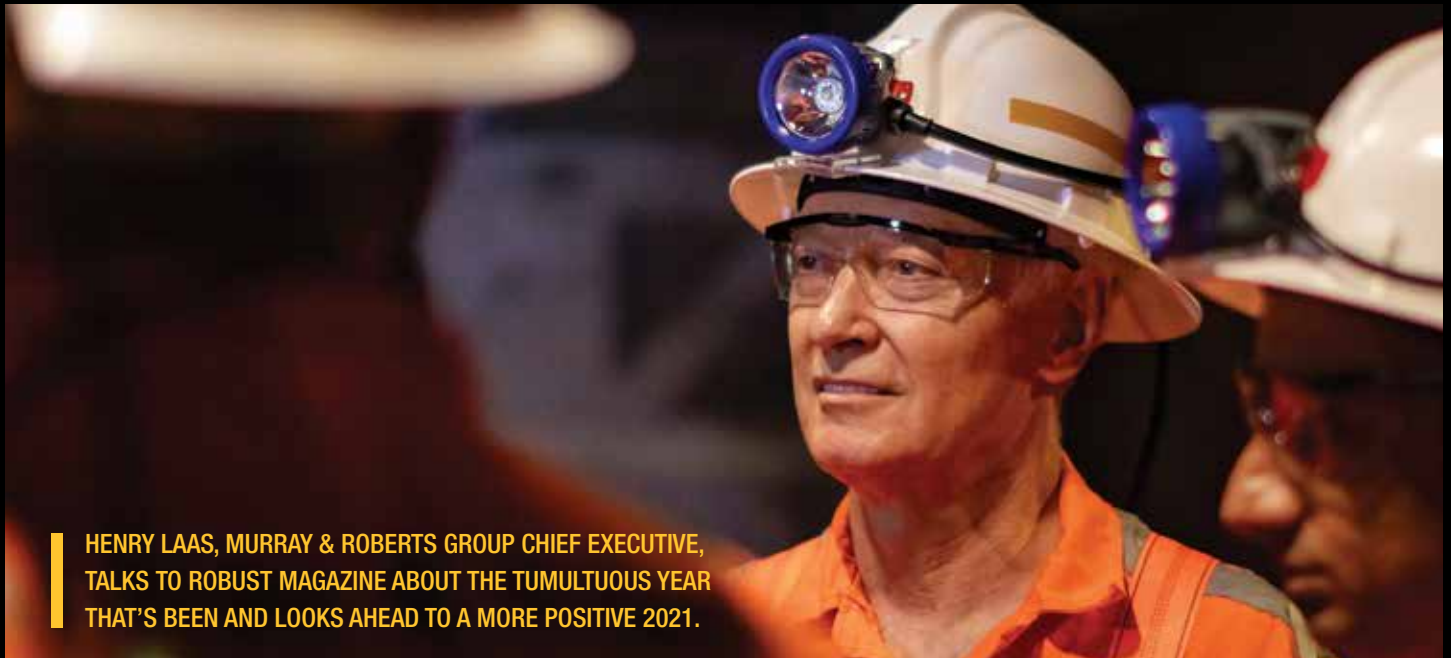


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FEATURE

EMERGING FROM THE PANDEMIC STRONGER THAN BEFORE



HENRY LAAS, MURRAY & ROBERTS GROUP CHIEF EXECUTIVE, TALKS TO ROBUST MAGAZINE ABOUT THE TUMULTUOUS YEAR THAT'S BEEN AND LOOKS AHEAD TO A MORE POSITIVE 2021.

I've been reflecting on the past 12 months – specifically, on how the COVID-19 pandemic has led to a dramatic loss of human life and how it has introduced an unprecedented challenge to public health, food systems, employment and labour. The economic and social disorder caused by the pandemic is devastating, with millions of people at risk of falling into poverty. There is great uncertainty with regard to how we will return to some form of normality – if this is even possible.

The Murray & Roberts Group has not escaped the impact of this virus. It disrupted our projects operationally and introduced market uncertainty, which resulted in the delay of new project awards. Other than operations in Australia, which experienced a relatively light touch of COVID-19, our businesses in all other parts of the

world were severely impacted. This was reflected in the Group's poor financial results, reported for the previous financial year and the first half of the current financial year.

However, I believe that we will emerge stronger than before.

There is no doubt that the COVID-19 pandemic will permanently alter human society, but our history is filled with tales of perseverance and triumph, where we have overcome what seemed like unsurmountable odds at the time. We have survived global economic crashes, pandemics and world wars. We have achieved great feats: we have walked on the moon, developed modern medicine, brought the internet to life and mapped the human genome, to name a few. We have also broken the speed of sound,

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Robust Magazine is published on behalf of Murray & Roberts by Bastion
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FEATURE

FROM PAGE 3



summitted the highest mountains and now regularly run and break the four-minute mile barrier – yet many of these triumphs were first thought to be impossible to realise.

Nobody can accurately predict what the world will look like within the next 12 to 18 months, or even when the virus may be contained. I believe, however, that we have an untapped reservoir of resilience that will carry us through this difficult COVID-19 period.

In a recent note to employees, I emphasised that we are fortunate to work for a great organisation, characterised by determination, resilience and trust. In this note, I also shared with our employees the fact that there are encouraging and strong signs in the global markets that support management's view that our business is entering an exciting period of new opportunity and growth.

Even though the current financial year is a challenging one, we are encouraged by the significant growth in our order book to all-time-high levels. This order book will translate into a much higher annual revenue stream, and this increase in revenue is expected to be reported as early as the second half of the current financial year. The quality of our order book and the increase in revenue provide strong motivation for our expectation of a substantial improvement in earnings as from the new financial year.

As the world progresses in its development and distribution of vaccines, we will gradually develop immunity against COVID-19



and its variants. Despite the headwinds we must all still face, we are looking forward to what lies ahead for Murray & Roberts and I ask you to join me in this conviction.

I would like to thank all Murray & Roberts stakeholders for your continued support through these challenging times.

Stay safe and take care.

Henry **R**



BUSINESS PLATFORMS

V&A INVESTS IN ENVIRO-FRIENDLY WATER SECURITY

In 2016, Murray & Roberts Water secured an exclusive licence agreement for Organica Water's wastewater treatment technology, and one of the first potential clients it engaged in this regard was the V&A Waterfront (V&A) in Cape Town.

Having identified and promoted itself as an environmentally conscious tourist destination, the V&A recognised the value of Organica Water's technology. Given that this technology could also provide water security during drought conditions, a number of potential sites and treated effluent re-use options were evaluated and considered. However, it was only after representatives of the V&A visited the Organica Water resource recovery demonstration facility in KwaZulu-Natal that a decision was finally made to invest in this technology.

As a result, Murray & Roberts Water will soon be relocating the demonstration facility to a central site at the V&A, where it will treat sewage generated within the waterfront precinct. The treated effluent will be used to flush toilets in the shopping mall, while excess treated effluent will irrigate the precinct gardens.

"We could not have asked for a more visible location to deploy the Organica technology commercially," says Kuvan Govender, business development manager at Murray & Roberts Water. "We are confident that it will generate interest and secure further contracts."

Organica Water brings a highly imaginative approach to wastewater treatment in urban and suburban areas. Organica's treatment facilities utilise active biofilms on natural (plant) and/or engineered (patented biofiber media) root structures, all housed in a fully enclosed, odourless facility. The result is a solution which offers a 50% to 75% reduced physical footprint compared to conventional wastewater treatment solutions, with an up to 30% reduction in operational costs – all in the form of a pleasant environment that's similar to a botanical garden.

"An Organica-powered facility is more than just a wastewater treatment plant; it is also a water reclamation garden, an educational facility and a symbol of sustainability in the community that enables cost-efficient water re-use and allows for maximised development opportunities, particularly in populated areas where footprint and odour are significant concerns," concludes Akhil Barar, chief executive of Organica Water. **R**

BUSINESS PLATFORMS



NEWMONT MUSSELWHITE PROJECT ATTRIBUTES ITS SUCCESS TO COLLABORATION

Cementation Canada and Terra Nova Technologies have successfully completed their first joint venture, working as a consolidated team on the Newmont ConRamp Conveyor Project. The project is located at Musselwhite gold mine, 500km north of Thunder Bay in Ontario, Canada.

Work on the project entailed replacing the main ConRamp conveyor system, as well as a general replacement “in kind” which included working on safety and performance enhancements requested by Newmont.

Cementation Canada and Terra Nova Technologies were responsible for the engineering, procurement and construction (EPC) work on this project. The integrated EPC team allowed for seamless delivery and, in so doing, reduced the time and costs that were projected for the job’s completion.

For the engineering part of the job, a variety of equipment was used, including conveyor tables and associated components, as well as main conveyor drives, conveyor pulleys, a transfer tower between the two conveyors, a prefabricated electrical room, gravity take-up units and overall system integration.

A three-dimensional (3D) model of the conveyor layout design was presented to the client to assist in their approval of the final design. It also provided a visual representation for the construction crews to better understand the site layout and construction requirements.



A 3D Lidar scan during the early phases of construction optimised the elevation of the conveyor tables and the associated curvature of the system, ensuring no interference between the wall and conveyor tables during final installation.

A system to monitor the temperature of the conveyor idlers and bearings was also installed. The system provides an early indication of when the idlers and bearings are compromised in their performance. It consists of four fibre optic cables, running along the length of the conveyor and close to the bearings for quick sensing.

Site activities were suspended for two months because of the outbreak of COVID-19, although the engineering and procurement work continued remotely. Despite the time pressures and disruption brought on by the pandemic, the project was delivered safely and on time, with no lost-time injuries. **R**

BUSINESS PLATFORMS

RUC CEMENTATION MINING IS DEVELOPING THE DIGITAL MINE

The mining industry is one of the last to be disrupted by technology. However, many companies are in the process of embracing Industry 4.0 technologies such as data analytics, virtual and augmented reality, and automation.

Barry Upton, managing director of RUC Cementation Mining, leads the company's digitalisation initiatives. Says Barry: "I have more than 40 years' experience in the industry and I'm always interested in testing new ideas to improve productivity, efficiency and safety across our operations."

RUC implemented an industry first with whole-of-mine, whole-of-fleet asset tracking. This not only improved safety outcomes but also allowed RUC to better utilise its heavy equipment.

The company engaged MineTech to implement a vehicle tracking system, which significantly improved trucking efficiencies. Vehicle tracking provided an advanced understanding of asset location which enabled a free-flowing underground haulage route with

no obstructions. This resulted in improved productivity, accurate tracking and data, and improved driver visibility and safety.

RUC's technology partnerships provide mutual benefits, as Barry explains: "Technology companies often have great products but nowhere to test them. We provide an opportunity for them to test in a real-world environment, and in return we get a first look and input into cutting-edge technology, with the option of being an early adopter of the technology."

Technology partnerships are also collaborative, especially when it comes to developing new software, databases and analytics.

The next stage of RUC's digitalisation strategy centres on obtaining real-time performance data from the company's assets. "Our priority is to predict when equipment is operating out of normal range and to prevent unplanned breakdowns through reliability engineering based on known data," concludes Barry.

With over 2 300 employees, RUC has operations across the Asia-Pacific region, including in countries such as Kazakhstan, Mongolia, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Australia and New Zealand. **R**



BUSINESS PLATFORMS



CH·IV EXPANDS ITS ENGINEERING AND CONSULTING OPERATIONS INTO NEW MARKETS

Clough subsidiary CH·IV International is proud to announce two key changes: a recent branding refresh and its adoption of a new market diversification strategy for its engineering and consulting services. This, as the company continues to expand into the Oil & Gas, Midstream, Power, and Water and Wastewater industries.

CH·IV International is a global engineering and consulting firm that provides a full spectrum of solutions to asset developers, regulators, owners, operators and lenders across the energy, infrastructure and resources industries. Our team of expert advisers work in close partnership with our clients to ensure that their assets are developed, designed, constructed and operated safely in accordance with the project's technical and commercial specifications, while adhering to regulatory and environmental requirements.

CH·IV is the independent consulting and front-end delivery arm of Clough Group, providing fully integrated, end-to-end solutions.

Mona Setoodeh, president of CH·IV, explains: "Since 2001, CH·IV has been known as a leading engineering and consulting firm to the liquefied natural gas (LNG) industry. Over the past 20 years, our operations and capabilities have expanded greatly, leading us into new market opportunities. Our ability to advise and serve our clients more broadly across market sectors aligns directly with the growth strategy of our parent company, Clough, and is supported by both our in-house team of engineers as well as our technical, commercial and regulatory experts."

Adds Peter Bennett, the chief executive and managing director of Clough: "This is an

exciting new phase for CH·IV. It will open up more collaborative work opportunities for the business and further support Clough's growth across North America."

CH·IV's core commitment remains unchanged: to provide unparalleled value to its clients' operations by protecting their investments through the entire project lifecycle, backed by the company's proven solutions and execution experience.

CH·IV will continue to be an industry leader in the LNG sector, and will now have the capabilities and expertise to provide front-end delivery services to Clough's energy, infrastructure and resources operations across North America and globally. **R**



BUSINESS PLATFORMS



CLOUGH AND ELECNOR SECURE LUCRATIVE CONTRACT FOR ELECTRICITY TRANSMISSION LINE

SecureEnergy is a 50/50 integrated joint venture between two companies involved in project development: Clough and Elecnor. Recently, SecureEnergy scored a major coup by being selected as the contractor for TransGrid's Project EnergyConnect. The contract is valued at about AU\$1.5 billion.

Details of the project are as follows: Electricity transmission network operator TransGrid is partnering with electricity transmission specialist ElectraNet to deliver an energy interconnector between the power grids of South Australia (starting at Robertstown) and New South Wales (finishing in Wagga Wagga), with an added connection to Victoria (Red Cliffs).

SecureEnergy will deliver the engineering, procurement and construction (EPC) work on TransGrid's portion of the project. This entails setting up four substations along with about 700km of a 330kV transmission line.

Peter Bennett is managing director of Clough, a Murray & Roberts subsidiary based in Perth. He explains: "The Australian energy sector is undergoing development of an infrastructure that will sustain it through the future growth of our nation. Clough is extremely proud to be selected for this project and to continue to be part of the Energy portfolio."

Elecnor is a leading international EPC contractor, responsible for delivering some of the largest transmission lines in the world. Its core capabilities include installing transmission lines and substations.

Joseph de Pedro, the managing director of Elecnor Australia, explains further: "SecureEnergy entering the Power Transmission sector in Australia represents a big milestone for the industry in terms of bringing more innovation

and know-how to the market as well as upskilling the Australian workforce to support the upcoming electricity network transformation."

Adds Peter: "Elecnor has an enviable track record globally in delivering high-voltage transmission projects such as this, and combined with Clough's Australian project delivery expertise, we form a formidable joint venture."

The project has been strongly supported by the New South Wales government, which has declared it "critical state significant infrastructure". Project EnergyConnect is a key element of the Australian Energy Market Operator's so-called Integrated System Plan, which provides an integrated roadmap for the efficient development of the country's National Electricity Market over the next 20 years and beyond. **R**

THE ROBUST EXCHANGE



MIKE WELLS

MURRAY & ROBERTS CEMENTATION MANAGING DIRECTOR

WHAT EXCITES YOU ABOUT THE FUTURE IN YOUR INDUSTRY?

Building new mines that will boost the career opportunities of many more South Africans. I am also enthusiastic about the diverse and unique project opportunities that our service offerings expose us to.

WHAT ARE SOME OF YOUR INTERESTS OUTSIDE OF THE OFFICE?

Tennis, fly fishing and fly tying, boating and travel. I also enjoy spending time outdoors, be it time in the bush game viewing and birding, or simply braaing in the company of family and friends.

WHAT IS THE BEST PIECE OF CAREER ADVICE YOU'VE RECEIVED?

You can't move up the corporate ladder unless you have trained your own successor.

WHAT WOULD PEOPLE BE SURPRISED TO KNOW ABOUT YOU?

Not much – what you see is what you get.

WHAT WAS YOUR FIRST JOB?

I worked as a Mining Graduate Learner official at Elandsrand Gold Mine, part of Anglo American's gold division.

TRACE YOUR CAREER JOURNEY FROM WHERE YOU STARTED TO WHERE YOU ARE NOW.

After studying Mining Engineering at Wits University, I did my two years of national service. I spent the next 10 years at Anglo American, on the Elandsrand (now Kusasaletu), TauTona (one of the three Western Deep Levels mines of the West Wits gold field west of Joburg) and President Brand gold mines.

I then moved to Murray & Roberts Cementation and have worked for the company for the past 27 years, holding various positions. From starting out as a senior project manager, I became a project executive, then operations director, then technical director and I now hold my current position as managing director.

WHERE DID YOU GROW UP?

In Johannesburg – I was born, bred and educated here. **R**

WHAT CAREER MILESTONES ARE YOU MOST PROUD OF HAVING ACHIEVED?

There are various milestones; here are some of them:

- The South Deep Main and Ventilation Shaft Sinking project, the largest shaft-sinking project ever – it has two 3 000m vertical shafts;
- Winning the Association of Mine Managers Gold Medal for the technical paper in 1997 titled "Construction of concrete plug on the South Deep Main Shaft to seal off a major water intersection";
- Completing multiple shaft-sinking projects with no fatalities;
- Working with Placer Dome consultants at South Deep Gold Mine on revising the industry standard for mortar intruded bulkhead plugs, and co-authoring technical papers on the topic;
- Impala 12 North brattice wall installation;
- Impumelelo and Shondoni underground bunker projects;
- Being appointed managing director of Murray & Roberts Cementation in 2017; and
- Achieving five million fatality-free shifts for Murray & Roberts Cementation on 2 January 2021.

WHAT ARE SOME OF THE CHALLENGES YOU FACE IN YOUR CURRENT ROLE?

There are three main challenges:

- The retention of talent and skills;
- Inspiring the belief and collective accountability that Zero Harm is achievable in underground mining; and
- Balancing commercial risk mitigation with winning work.

ROBUST MAGAZINE TALKS TO THE MURRAY & ROBERTS CEMENTATION LEADERSHIP TEAM ABOUT THEIR CAREER HIGHLIGHTS AND CHALLENGES.



SIBULELE SONGCA

MURRAY & ROBERTS CEMENTATION FINANCIAL DIRECTOR

WHAT CAREER MILESTONES ARE YOU MOST PROUD OF HAVING ACHIEVED?

Throughout my career I have focused on setting clear and specific goals for myself in each position I've had the opportunity to occupy. I am most proud of the fact that I have managed to achieve these goals. I continue to challenge myself by setting new goals whenever I identify an opportunity for career development and growth because I believe you never stop learning. I must say, though, that my transition to the role of financial director has proven to be the toughest yet, but I am confident that with hard work and consistency, the goals I've set for myself will be achieved.

WHAT ARE SOME OF THE CHALLENGES YOU FACE IN YOUR CURRENT POSITION?

Making a meaningful impact in any role, professional or personal, is always top of mind for me. I have been in my current position for two years now, and I've found that understanding the environment and making sense of all the different components and aspects that make up the organisation to be the biggest challenge. As I continue to navigate my position, I am confident that once I have a firm grasp of it, making a meaningful impact will be well within my reach.

WHAT EXCITES YOU ABOUT THE FUTURE IN YOUR INDUSTRY?

In the context of the Cementation Africa business, I am excited about the opportunities that exist in various mining regions outside of South Africa. Exploring other regions is an exciting challenge. It is a different but interesting world out there, and we have to navigate it and make good on the opportunities that exist.

WHAT ARE SOME OF YOUR INTERESTS OUTSIDE OF THE OFFICE?

I have a one-year-old son who keeps my wife and I on our toes, so I spend most of my time outside of the office with my family. I come from a relatively big family and enjoy spending time with my siblings. We see each other often and we love to braai.

I also enjoy sport: I play golf when time allows, and lately, I've been playing rugby at The Wanderers Club in Johannesburg to keep fit.

WHAT IS THE BEST PIECE OF CAREER ADVICE YOU'VE RECEIVED?

It's the old saying: "You need to see the wood for the trees." Also this: Better decisions come from leaders who are level-headed and focused.

WHAT WOULD PEOPLE BE SURPRISED TO KNOW ABOUT YOU?

Most people don't know that I have a passion for agriculture, particularly cattle farming.

WHAT WAS YOUR FIRST JOB?

A trainee accountant at KPMG. I was paid peanuts and was overworked, but it served as a good foundation for my career.

TRACE YOUR CAREER JOURNEY FROM WHERE YOU STARTED TO WHERE YOU ARE NOW.

I went from being a trainee accountant at KPMG to audit supervisor. I left KPMG for Murray & Roberts Limited and worked as the group reporting accountant. I was then appointed financial accountant at Murray & Roberts Cementation, then financial manager at Murray & Roberts Power & Water, and I am now the financial director at Murray & Roberts Cementation.

WHERE DID YOU GROW UP?

I was born in a small town called Tsolo in the Eastern Cape (formerly the Transkei). My roots are in Tsolo as that is where my family is based. During my primary and high school years, I went to boarding schools in both the Eastern Cape and KwaZulu-Natal. I moved to Johannesburg after matric to attend what was then called The Rand Afrikaans University, now the University of Johannesburg. **R**

NEWS

MURRAY & ROBERTS RUNNING CLUB ATHLETES TAKE ON AFRICANX

Murray & Roberts Running Club athletes Charne Bosman and Karel Burger will take on South Africa's premier three-day stage trail run in March.

The AfricanX Trailrun has grown in popularity since the inaugural event in 2009. It is run in teams of two. Each team races a different route, varying in distance, over three days. These routes cover magnificent trails.

Charne is a 2016 Comrades Marathon champion with a running career spanning 27 years. Despite her stellar track record, she says that taking part in the AfricanX Trailrun is stepping out of her comfort zone: "I am not sure if any road races will take place in the next four months and I've always wanted to take part in the AfricanX Trailrun. I did some trail running while on holiday and absolutely loved it; I loved the toughness around it.

"I don't have a trail-running background, but I have represented South Africa at six world cross-country championships and I actually started my running career as a cross-country runner."

Charne will be teaming up with Karel, who also runs for the Murray & Roberts Running Club and is no stranger to the sport.

"Our team strengths will be mental toughness and collective competition experience," says Karel. "Our goal is to do well, and I am training on the trails every weekend to meet that goal."

The AfricanX Trailrun starts on Friday, 26 March at the Houw Hoek Hotel, situated between the towns of Grabouw and Botrivier in the Western Cape. **R**



Charne Bosman



Karel Burger



NOT ALL HEROES WEAR CAPES

Employees from Murray & Roberts companies and tenants based at the Douglas Roberts Centre came together to help the local community. We salute them for their dedication to, and involvement in, these upliftment initiatives:

OPERATION ANTI-FREEZE: FIGHTING HUNGER AND GIVING HOPE

Operation Anti-Freeze is an inner-city upliftment project that reaches out to underprivileged communities in the Ekurhuleni municipality in Gauteng. We conducted a fundraising collection in December 2020 in aid of the Operation Anti-Freeze Christmas Hamper drive, which delivers food parcels to needy families over the festive season.

AVRIL ELIZABETH HOME GETS ANOTHER WHEELCHAIR

The Tops and Tags initiative collects plastic bottle tops that would usually end up in landfill. We were able to collect an additional 460kg of these bottle tops – enough to trade for a third wheelchair, which was donated to Wonga, a resident of the Avril Elizabeth Home. Wonga is delighted to be more mobile and able to move around on his own.

SCHOOL UNIFORM LAY-BY DEBTS PAID OFF

A collection organised two weeks before the start of the school year meant that we were able to pay off the school uniform lay-by debt at two community Pep stores, giving learners and their families a better start to 2021.

We are grateful to every person who gave of their time, money and resources to help us ease the burdens of parents and communities who have less than we do. **R**

NEWS



TOGETHER TO ZERO HARM – FIVE MILLION FATALITY-FREE SHIFTS

We prioritise the health, safety and wellbeing of our employees, partners and host communities in every decision we make. This commitment to safety is expressed in the way we put into practice the Group's value of Care, as well as through our continuous efforts to improve the Group's safety framework.

Making this commitment to safety visible is Murray & Roberts Cementation: it recently achieved a milestone of five million fatality-free shifts.

"This exciting milestone, which we reached in early January 2021, is the result of years of commitment by every member of the company to the multiple safety initiatives and programmes we've run," says Mike Wells, managing director of Murray & Roberts Cementation. "Management has played its part too: we've placed an unrelenting focus on implementing the Major Accident Prevention programme, as well as on performing stringent risk assessments and verifying critical controls in the field."

The maturing safety culture that now exists among employees, along with their internalisation of our safety principles, has entrenched the belief that Zero Harm is achievable, with each employee returning home safely every day.

"We have seen a marked attitudinal change over the years, where success has bred more success and all our employees take ownership of their safe work practices, both personally and collectively," says Mike.

"This builds a resilient safety culture, which has included a crucial commitment to doing work right the first time.

"Today, our mining clients regard the commitment to fatality-free operations as a given – not only for themselves but also for their service providers. We are proud to be able to demonstrate our success as part of the broader progress in this field by the whole mining sector." **R**

NEWS



LENDING A HELPING HAND

Unfortunately, the 2020 Jack Cheetham and Letsema Awards were cancelled as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. Says Brenda Mantje, corporate social responsibility coordinator at Murray & Roberts: “We were unable to proceed with the awards. We were also aware that many of the organisations we support were struggling as a result of the lockdown and the curtailment of their fundraising initiatives.”

“We then identified previous beneficiaries who were responding to the pandemic in their communities, and we were fortunate to be able to provide some financial assistance through the Murray & Roberts Letsema Sizwe Trust.”

Shumbashaba was the winner of the 2012 Letsema Award. Nine years on, the impact of its programme is still being felt primarily in the Diepsloot community. Diepsloot is a township accommodating some 250 000 residents, most of whom are young people. They experience high levels of trauma, brought on by problems such as unemployment, poverty, crime, substance abuse, child abuse and gender-based violence.

Says Sharon Boyce, founder of Shumbashaba: “The pandemic has been increasingly difficult for the organisation to cope with as our usual fee-paying client base, which contributes a significant portion of our funding, has been reduced to almost nothing.”

At the same time, the need for food and basic resources in the Diepsloot community has increased exponentially. The all-too-familiar challenges that come with living in abject poverty – in particular, unemployment, food insecurity and trauma as a result of gender-based violence – have been exacerbated by the various COVID-19 lockdowns.

In response to this crisis, Shumbashaba deployed its skills and resources to assist the families of the 800 children who attend its youth development programme. Its efforts have borne fruit: In the past few months, the organisation has distributed more than



2 000 food parcels and has delivered food vouchers to the value of R130 000. It has also initiated a weekly soup kitchen that feeds approximately 200 children and their families.

Along with the Saturday soup kitchen, Shumbashaba developed and implemented an activity-based programme to promote and restore resilience in children and the youth. In addition, the organisation enrolled its youth coordinators in a Psychological First Aid course to better equip them to deal with their own stress and, in turn, enable them to respond to signs of trauma and psychological crisis in the wider community.

The Shumbashaba therapeutic riding programmes are currently not fully operational as the beneficiaries of this programme reside in community care and residential facilities, which remain closed to outside activities. However, the organisation hopes to resume equine-assisted psychotherapy to survivors of gender-based violence and other trauma soon.

Sharon concludes on a positive note by saying: “Despite the challenges, COVID-19 has given us the opportunity to really think hard about what we do. In order for all of us at Shumbashaba to be responsive to the needs of the community, our focus must be on food security and the promotion of wellness interventions. We are less about running a therapeutic riding programme, and more about driving a community and youth development programme that utilises nature, as well as horses and other animals, to help children and adolescents to recognise their self-worth – and in this way, gain the life skills and that sense of empowerment needed to build a meaningful and hopeful future for themselves.” **R**

NEWS



JOIN US AT THE MURRAY & ROBERTS CHILD WELFARE FUND GOLF DAY FUNDRAISER

The Murray & Roberts Child Welfare Fund Golf Day makes a welcome return this year, after the 2020 event was cancelled due to lockdown restrictions. The event will be hosted on Friday, 7 May at the magnificent Glendower Golf Course in Bedfordview, Johannesburg.

Says Ed Jardim, chairman of the Murray & Roberts Child Welfare Fund: "2020 was a tough year for many people and organisations, but I am pleased that we were able to keep up the fund's work, especially as this was the year in which at-risk children and communities needed us most."

The Murray & Roberts Corporate Social Responsibility committee facilitated a once-off donation to help the fund continue with its work after the cancellation of its fundraising golf day. The Murray & Roberts Employee Payroll Giving programme raised R60 000 during the financial year, and this amount was matched by the Letsema Sizwe Community Trust. In total, R387 000 was raised during the year and was paid to 15 organisations in support of education, building and renovations, medical costs, furniture and equipment, clothing and linen, and food and nutrition.

Adds Ed: "We are grateful to all our supportive donors and on behalf of the committee, we extend our heartfelt thanks to everyone who made a difference, especially during these tough times."

The golf day is the fund's main fundraising event and in light of the difficult circumstances many companies are experiencing, the cost of the fourball has been reduced to R4 500. Although there will be no sponsored shirt and cap this year, the prize-giving will take place, albeit with virtual formalities and a take-away snack box.

Contact Lisa van der Linde on lisa.vanderlinde@murrob.com to book your fourball. If you would like to support the day but you aren't a golfer, there are options open to you: consider a sponsorship opportunity, for example, or consider donating a fourball prize. We look forward to a splendid day out on the course in support of our children and the communities who rely on our assistance and interventions. **R**





The philosophy of **Engineered Excellence**, interwoven into the Group's culture, brings rigour and discipline to everything we do and aims to remove chance from the outcomes we seek. It reinforces our pursuit of resilience and competitiveness, as well as the trust of our clients, employees and commercial and social partners.

www.murrob.com

