



## THATCHERS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH AFRICA DEKKERSVERENIGING VAN SUID-AFRIKA

Newsletter 4/2013

### NEWSLETTER

28 May 2013

Dear member

Another year has passed with another AGM behind us. Those who were there will confirm what a beautiful part of the country it is. I just want to again thank John Smith for the arrangements. For those who were not there, we just want to say, you missed something great. With such members I believe that the TASA will still go a long way. I did not realize we had such young members – they have to know that we need young blood in the management of the TASA

Many problems were discussed; we've chatted and eaten, and hopefully problems were resolved - especially our Constitution which was no longer a workable document that received much attention. It was my pleasure to see how opposing companies could share information, chat and laugh. After eighteen years in the Industry, I learned new things that I did not really know much about.

Many people think because you're in the Industry you need to know everything, but it is not at all true. For the first time I fully understand what the spraying of the chemical products entail. It just happened by listening to the opinions of others and by realizing that there is information that I have not heard anywhere else.

The big challenge for the next term is to try to finalise the SABS codes up to a point and to complete the Training Manual. This means that everyone in the Industry should get involved because working methods differ from region to region.

The Thatching "Fun Fair" which will be held in the Cape in 2014, can also mean a lot to the Association. Imagine how nice it would be if all the thatching contractors in the country sat with the Europeans around a table and had only a time of fun. The only thing is that they will need to learn Xhosa, Zulu and "Affiekaap" so that they will be able to understand the South African thatching contractors.

If Government institutions, such as the Police a few years ago, can have a 'makietie', we also surely can. Hopefully, we Capetonians can teach the rest of the country to drink wine. This will give our economy a boost and hopefully cause your blood pressure to drop - everyone wins in the process.

I would like to thank everyone who attended the AGM. Their confidence in the Executive committee is much appreciated. I also want to thank the committee for their confidence in me. I will really try during the next term to hold the steering wheel straight.

The Minutes of the Annual General Meeting is enclosed herewith. The discussions and decisions made are clearly indicated.

The new Constitution and approved Source documents which are effective from 18 May 2013 are also included for your information.

The National Photo Competition did not yield many entries and prizes were awarded in the following three categories:

- Most funny photo won by David Hoffman of Hoffman's Thatching Specialists
- Largest single structure won by Shaun Smith of Biggarsberg Thatchers
- Most aesthetic structure won by David Hoffman of Hoffman's Thatching Specialists



Sincere thanks are extended to Lonza Wood Protection (Pty) Ltd who sponsored the prize money.

Kind regards

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**NATIONAL CHAIRMAN**

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