



THATCHERS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH AFRICA DEKKERSVERENIGING VAN SUID-AFRIKA

Newsletter 3/2022

28 March 2022

NEWSLETTER

Dear TASA member

2022 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Our financial year ended on 28 February 2022. There are still some of our members who have not yet renewed their membership for the current year but great appreciation is expressed towards those who have already done so.

As soon as our audited financial statements are received from our auditors, a date will be set for this year's Annual General Meeting. Unless our members decide otherwise, we will hold it again by means of a zoom meeting on a Saturday morning.

CONFIRMATION OF MEMBERSHIP

It is encouraging to note that even municipalities now require confirmation of TASA membership. It is certainly a contributing factor that new applications for membership are received but membership is only accepted after SATAS (South African Technical Auditing Services) assessments have been received in which membership is recommended.

SHOW CASE FOR OUR MEMBERS

For years, a photo competition was part of our Annual General Meeting during which our members could exhibit their roofs. Although it has been difficult over the past few years and not many new roofs have been built, we would like to encourage our members to send in photos of those roofs they are proud of.

We would like to share in successes that have been achieved and that will then also be encouragement for others. Here are photos submitted by John Smith of Biggarsberg Thatchers of the new Mkuze International Airport built by Biggarsberg Thatchers.





SCARCITY OF QUALITY THATCH

For especially those members who do not have storage facilities, thatch that meets specification requirements is currently a problem. It should be brought to the attention of our members that thatch cut in the rainy season and dried in the sun does not meet these requirements. It is easy to test as it breaks on the limbs and is full of seeds and leaves. The resin layer has also not yet been formed which protects the thatch from moisture penetration. The life of a thatched roof is shortened by many years when this sun dried thatch is mixed with quality thatch. Even thatch reed arriving in the interior from the Cape is sometimes still green and full of seed.

It is encouraging that some of the thatch sellers are approaching the TASA office to be able to acquire prospective buyers. These queries are answered by passing on to them the specification requirements with descriptions and photos. Especially from the Bronkhorstpruit area thatch should be available that meet the specification requirements if they follow the advice given.

Kind regards

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NATIONAL CHAIRMAN

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