



# THATCHERS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH AFRICA DEKKERSVERENIGING VAN SUID-AFRIKA

Newsletter 5//2017

25 Julie 2017

## NEWSLETTER

Dear TASA member

### MEMBERSHIP

As the existence of the Thatchers Association, the SANS 10407 (Thatched Roof Construction) specification requirements and TASA's "A Guide to Thatch Construction in South Africa" become more widely known, membership of the TASA is increasingly required.

To get the TASA on its feet, all those who applied have been accepted. But during the past ten years, a very important screening process has taken place and it is no longer so easy to become a member of the TASA, because the applicants' roofs as well as office administration, etc. (also former members who apply again) are inspected by SATAS (South African Technical Auditing Services). Membership fees are payable pro rata, but applicants must pay SATAS's inspection fee in addition to the membership fees.

The trend these days is that an amount of R2 000 is paid into the TASA bank account and that new applicants insist on Associated Membership, for example, they only service roofs. The Thatching Industry is a specialized profession, and because the TASA is committed to protecting the Association and its members, full membership is required. Associated membership is only available for industries that play a role and contribute to the Thatching Industry. No exception is made and all thatching contractors are treated the same. It does not matter if the member only services roofs and/or only builds lapas.

To give our members recognition, to generate pride in their TASA membership and to make our members more sought after, I would like to make a proposal and would like to know what you think about it.

Many of our members already have vehicle stickers, but would you like to also have a sign / sticker that you can display near a roof that you have built or serviced?

A sign like the neighborhood watch, for example, set against a wall/fence or a sticker where it will be visible.

### **PROUD MEMBER OF:**

Your logo  
(numbers can be added)



**PROUD MEMBER OF**

*or*

**MARK OF EXCELLENCE**



**TASA'S FACEBOOK PAGE**

The TASA Facebook page gets a lot of attention. Photos and articles are placed to provide more information, especially where problems are encountered in our industry.

It would be highly appreciated if you would send the office pictures and information of construction and other problems / errors that were corrected. The process is very important as shown below.

**PROBLEM: The heat of the steel flue through the thatch, causing the thatch to charcolize**

**An example of how the problem can be solved.**



Thatch charcolize as a result of the heat from the steel



An opening cut through the thatch and a single brick wall built around the steel



The opening closed again



Finishing outside



***Example:*** If possible, photos must be submitted without showing workers or where workers **are wearing** the necessary safety equipment

Single stone wall surrounding steel flue and expanded above thatch roof  
By using the brick wall the leaking against the steel could be corrected

By giving as much information as possible to the public, we promote and protect our industry against offenses and exploitation. An informed public will realize that to get a job done as cheaply as possible, is expensive at the end and can shorten the lifespan of the roof.

Poor workmanship and non-compliance with specification requirements can also turn out to be very expensive.

**THE NECESSITY OF APPROVED PLANS**

Failures like this roof with wind damage are no advertisement for our industry. The lack of windbreakers (wind bracers) are among other things, the reason for the failure of this roof.

The weight of a thatch roof with poles is about 80 kg per sq.m and with wind load approximately 121 kg per sq.m..



Show wind brace support beams bolted to the underside of rafter poles

Our members' input is highly appreciated. Also, please remember that 20% commission is paid on the total amount of a sponsorship that was recruited.

Please also take note of the executive management's portfolios:

Abrie Visagie  
John Smith  
Bertus Nieuwenhuis  
Christiaan Munnik  
David Hoffman  
Dawid Pretorius

Lucas Quality Thatchers  
Biggarsberg Thatchers  
Recon Thatchers  
Thatchscapes  
Hoffmans' Thatching Specialists  
Con-Thatch

National Chairman  
Vice National Chairman  
Member  
Member  
Treasurer  
Member

Marketing & Finances  
Guide & Technical issues  
Sponsors  
Members'  
Finances  
SABS liasson

Kind regards

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