

# INKUMDLA

THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE

ROUNDTABLE  
SOUTHERN AFRICA

IRON & INK  
SURVIVOR SA WINNER - EXCLUSIVE



# INKUNDLA MAGAZINE

## LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

### IRON & INK: CELEBRATING SERVICE AND LEGACY ACROSS ROUND TABLE

As we release this edition of Inkundla, it's important to reflect on the journey the magazine has taken in 2025. This year, Inkundla has undergone a transformation, striving to capture the true spirit of Round Table in every issue. Like any process of change, there have been teething challenges, particularly in gathering submissions from Tables and Areas. While the amazing work being done across the association is evident, translating that into content for the magazine has proven to be a challenge.

Despite these hurdles, the vision for Inkundla remains strong: a platform that celebrates the iron, the hard work, dedication, and service we contribute to our communities, and the ink, the legacy we leave behind, not only in our communities but in each other. Every project, every initiative, every act of fellowship is part of that story, and it is our collective responsibility to ensure these stories are told.

“Every project, every act of fellowship, every story shared, together they forge the legacy we leave in our communities and in each other”

This edition is being released later than intended. An extension was granted to allow for additional submissions, but unfortunately, none were received. On a personal note, a busy work schedule, compounded by two home burglaries, contributed to further delay. These experiences serve as a reminder that the quality of Inkundla cannot rely on the publication alone, it thrives when it is a shared effort, a testament to teamwork, collaboration, and mutual commitment across the association.

The theme of this edition, Iron & Ink, perfectly captures what we strive to achieve: the tangible results of our work and the enduring legacy it creates. Let it serve as a call to action for all Tables and Areas, **your stories matter**, your projects matter, and together, we can make Inkundla a true reflection of the passion, service, and fellowship that define Round Table.

As we look to the future, I am optimistic. With your engagement, collaboration, and energy, Inkundla can grow into the platform we all envision: a place that celebrates achievement, inspires action, and leaves a lasting imprint on everyone who reads it. Let us embrace this challenge, share our stories, and continue to build a legacy in both iron and ink.



RTSA Inkundla Editor 2025/26  
pro@roundtable.co.za





# THE NEW FACE OF TABLETS

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Exclusive Interview: Survivor SA's winner, Rob Bentele shows that true strength is forged where grit meets grace.

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RTSA President, getting men moving, one step at a time





Inkundla Feature | Iron & Ink Edition

# IRON WILL, INKED SOUL.

## The Rob Bentele Story

From mud huts to mountains, from island hunger to lasting purpose.  
Survivor SA's Rob Bentele shows that true strength is forged where grit meets grace.



# From Zululand to the World

Rob Bentele's story begins in Empangeni, where an Austrian father and a Zulu mother gave him a heritage that spans continents, cultures, and ways of seeing the world. He laughs when he describes his childhood as "a life lived in chapters". One chapter unfolds in rural Zululand, where he slept in a mud hut without electricity. Another takes him to Europe, navigating trains, airports, and city lights. The next sees him in Gingindlovu, learning the rhythms of small town life.

Those early shifts shaped a young man who learned to adapt rather than resist. He learned to listen deeply. He learned to bridge worlds instinctively. And he learned that belonging is not given, it is built.

Whenever his parents sensed entitlement creeping in, they sent him back to the homestead. There he fetched water at dawn, bathed outside in icy winter air, and cooked over an open fire. Those experiences never left him. They built an inner toughness that no challenge could easily shake. "It teaches you humility," he reflects. "It teaches you how strong you can be when everything familiar is stripped away."

**I wanted to belong everywhere,  
so I learned to listen and connect.**

## A Life Always Reaching Higher

Long before the world met him on television, Rob was already testing his limits. At fifteen he hurled himself off the world's highest bungee bridge. At twenty one he stood at the summit of Mount Kilimanjaro. Adventure is not a hobby for him, it is a compass. A way of checking who he is becoming.

That relentless hunger for challenge set the stage for the defining experience that would put him on the map: **Survivor South Africa**.



### Quickfire with Rob Bentele

Full Name: **Robert Sbusiso Bentele**  
Age: **35**  
Born: **Empangeni, KwaZulu-Natal**  
Lives: **Richards Bay**  
Heritage: **Austrian father, Zulu mother**

**Career Highlights:**  
Jumped the world's highest bungee at 15  
Summited Mt. Kilimanjaro at 21  
Won Survivor South Africa at 29

**Passions Beyond the Spotlight:**  
A self-confessed tech geek.  
"It's the side of me few people know about."

**Three Words That Define Him:**  
Mind. Body. Soul.

**Favourite Life Lesson:**  
"Discomfort is temporary.  
Growth is permanent."

**Next Chapter:**  
Feeding the hungry,  
empowering communities,  
and creating real and lasting opportunities.







# Forged in Iron, Written in Ink

Rob often says the mind gives up long before the body. That belief shaped his life after Survivor as much as it shaped the game itself. For him, “iron” represents the refusal to bend when the moment demands resilience. It is the courage to push when comfort calls your name. It is the discipline to keep moving forward even when fear whispers the opposite. He sees this philosophy reflected in every meaningful chapter of his life, in childhood, in competition, in leadership, and in service.

**Discomfort is temporary. The reward of pushing through lasts forever.**

“Iron is how you endure. Ink is what you choose to carry.” If iron forged Rob’s resilience, ink represents his reflection, the wisdom, scars, and stories etched into him through hardship, triumph, and reinvention.

His ink today is written through service. Because what many people do not realise is that Rob’s journey did not end with reality TV. Instead, he used the doors it opened to champion charitable work across multiple communities in KwaZulu-Natal and beyond. He has raised funds, mobilised support networks, fed families, and used his platform to spotlight social issues that don’t trend easily on social media.

Right now, his personal mission is simple and absolute: Feed the hungry. Empower communities. Create real opportunities for people who feel forgotten. It is a calling that echoes the deepest values of Round Table: service above self, fellowship above ego, and impact above recognition.

# The Island That Forged Iron

When Survivor SA called, Rob didn’t see a TV show. He saw a crucible. A place to measure himself honestly. A battlefield of mind, body, and soul, the very words he uses to describe his identity.

And when he stepped onto that island, the test was harsher than he imagined. Six days with almost no food. A handful of rice as a daily ration. A body weakening to the point of dizziness. A mind that had to stay razor sharp while the world spun. “You feel your body eating itself,” he says. “But I learned that the mind holds more strength than we ever give it credit for.”

He built fires. He steadied the tribe. He became a source of comfort during chaos. And behind the scenes, he played the real game, the social game, with finesse. Alliances within alliances, trust built brick by brick, stability when others felt unstable.

It was this combination of strategic intelligence, emotional awareness and physical grit that ultimately crowned him Winner of Survivor South Africa.

But it did more than that, it introduced him to a global audience and placed him among the international Survivor community, where he continues to serve as an informal ambassador for the franchise. His later appearance on Survivor Australia: Champions vs Contenders and Survivor Australia vs The World only broadened that reach, cementing him as a familiar face within a global brotherhood of past contestants.



**“The body gives up long before the mind does.”**



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SOUTHERN AFRICA





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# RTSA EXECUTIVE REPORTS



# UNSTOPPABLE TOGETHER

## THE RTSA PRESIDENT REFLECTING ON A YEAR OF IMPACT AND GROWTH



**RTSA PRESIDENT - VOS BOTHA**

As 2025 draws to a close, it is a privilege to reflect on a year that has delivered meaningful progress for Round Table Southern Africa. This has been a year defined by growth, collaboration, and renewed focus on why we do what we do.

One of the standout achievements of the year has been our collaboration with the South African Blood Bank. For such a respected national institution to align itself with our brand speaks volumes about the credibility of our association and the values we represent. Establishing this partnership required significant effort, but the results have been deeply rewarding. Our blood drives exceeded expectations and demonstrated the tangible impact that purposeful action can achieve.

Our visibility as an association has also grown considerably. Opportunities to appear on live television, return to morning shows, and engage audiences through radio interviews have shifted our initiatives from ideas into reality. These platforms have allowed us to tell the Round Table story, showcase our impact, and position the association as a positive force in South African communities.

From an operational perspective, area travels have been a major focus and have proven invaluable. By mid October, all areas will have been visited, with the exception of Namibia, which will be covered at their AGM in February. These visits have strengthened relationships, improved communication, and reinforced the importance of accessible leadership. The engagement and feedback from members across the country have been both encouraging and motivating.

September was particularly intense, with four conferences taking place across the association, including Border Media, Central Tri Area, and BMG, as well as an on table world meeting in India. Each of these events was a success and offered opportunities to learn, connect, and align on our shared goals. The international meeting was especially insightful, highlighting a strong member focused approach that continues to inspire our own direction.

In addition, the second, and third ASSCO as well as third EXEC meetings were held successfully, creating space for important discussions and forward planning. Central to my presidency has been the theme of being “unstoppable”. This has meant focusing on doing less in order to achieve more, prioritising impact, and ensuring that both myself and the EXEC remain accessible, particularly to the Jay Table. The response to this approach has been positive and reaffirming.

At the heart of everything we do lies our “why”. When we remain focused on our purpose, creating hope, unity, safety, and brotherhood within our association and the communities we serve, everything else falls into place. It is this shared purpose that enables us to create meaningful and lasting change.

As we move towards the the close of the year, it is clear that the association is moving forward with momentum. There is strong energy within Round Table Southern Africa, and the foundation has been laid for continued growth.

**“Being unstoppable starts with understanding our why and choosing to create meaningful change in the lives of others.”**



I extend my sincere thanks to every member for their commitment, effort, and belief in what we stand for. I wish you and your families a restful festive season filled with joy and reflection. Looking ahead to 2026, may it be a year of renewed purpose, strong fellowship, and even greater impact.

**Together, we remain unstoppable.**



# THE HEARTBEAT OF ROUND TABLE BUILDING STRENGTH THROUGH MEMBERSHIP

As the official visits for the 2025 Round Table year draw to a close, I reflect with immense pride and gratitude on a year defined by fellowship, growth, and shared purpose. It has been a privilege to walk this journey alongside President Vos Botha and to engage with passionate Tablers across every corner of Southern Africa. Together, we have travelled thousands of kilometres, attended meetings and conferences in every Area, and experienced the true heartbeat of our Association. Each visit, conversation, and handshake reaffirmed why Round Table remains one of the most powerful platforms for fellowship and service in the world.

From Aloe Grove in Queenstown for the Border Mid-Year, to Aldam for the ONS Tri-Area, and finally Bredasdorp for the Western Province and South Cape Bi-Area, every official visit was marked by energy, honesty, and unmistakable Round Table spirit.

What stood out most was the passion of our members. Everywhere we went, we encountered a strong commitment to growth, service, and brotherhood. Our final visit in Bredasdorp was a fitting conclusion to the year, a celebration of camaraderie, laughter, and the shared purpose that binds us together as Tablers.

Earlier this year, President Vos Botha and I had the honour of representing Round Table Southern Africa at the RTI World Meeting in India, alongside our International Relations Officer, Cois van der Merwe. Standing among Tablers from across the globe was both humbling and inspiring.

Despite our different cultures and backgrounds, the values of friendship, service, and impact unite us all. The experience reinforced that Round Table is far bigger than any one country, yet deeply rooted in the same principles wherever it exists.



**RTSA VICE PRESIDENT - WESSEL DREYER**

**“When we invest in people, growth follows and the Association moves forward together.”**

## **Membership: The Heartbeat of Our Association**

Membership remains central to the future of Round Table Southern Africa. I am proud to report that since my last update, the Association has recorded 69 new inductions, with only a small number of resignations. This places us firmly on a growth trajectory and reflects the dedication of our Tables and Areas.

While challenges remain, particularly with over 30 Tables currently operating with one to four members, I see opportunity rather than concern. If each of these Tables were to induct just two new members, we would welcome more than 60 additional Tablers into our Association.

Ficksburg 98 stands as a powerful example of what belief and support can achieve. Not long ago, the Table consisted of a single active member. With encouragement and focused effort, they inducted four new members in one visit and are now growing steadily. This is the power of teamwork and commitment in action. Looking ahead, I remain committed to working closely with Area Vice Chairmen and Table Chairmen to support smaller Tables through leadership guidance, membership initiatives, and meaningful fellowship. Every Table that grows strengthens Round Table Southern Africa as a whole.

**“Round Table’s true strength lies not in its size, but in the people who choose to walk the journey together.”**

## **Looking Ahead**

This year has tested our stamina, but it has also strengthened our resolve. Every visit, late-night discussion, and new induction has reinforced a simple truth: Round Table’s strength lies not in numbers alone, but in its people.

Membership is more than a statistic, it is the lifeblood of our Association. The legacy we leave behind will be measured by the members we inspire, the Tables we strengthen, and the communities we uplift.

Let us continue to move forward together, focused, united, and unstoppable.





# AN INCREDIBLE JOURNEY TO THE ROUND TABLE INTERNATIONAL WORLD MEETING

## - RTSA IRO FRANCOIS VAN DER MERWE

As the time arrived to travel to the Round Table International World Meeting, my excitement was at an all-time high. Not only did I have the honour of representing Round Table Southern Africa on the international stage, but I was also fortunate enough to share this journey with my wife, which made the experience even more special and memorable.



### Dubai: A Dream Stopover

Before heading to India, we spent a few unforgettable days in Dubai. Standing atop the Burj Khalifa, exploring the Palm Jumeirah, and soaking up the energy of the city were highlights. Sunset cruises, late-night swims, and the vibrant atmosphere made Dubai the perfect starting point for what lay ahead.



### India: Welcomed with Open Arms

Soon enough, we were on our way to India for the much-anticipated World Meeting. On arrival, we waited for our President and Vice President, reconnecting with old friends and fellow Tablers who shared the same excitement.

From the outset, the hospitality was exceptional. After checking in at the hotel, we headed straight to the Welcome Pool Party, where fellowship and enthusiasm set the tone for the days to come.

### Meetings, Fellowship, and Shared Experiences

The week began with the Councillors Meeting, structured much like our own ARTSA Forums, where important discussions took place. Before long, it was time to prepare for the official Club Night at Club XO.

As proud South Africans travelling on modest budgets, we decided to step out after the event and experience India as locals do. What followed was an evening of laughter, adventure, and memorable moments with friends old and new.

### The AGM and Nations Night

Friday was dedicated to the Annual General Meeting, the formal business core of the World Meeting. The outgoing RTI President deserves recognition for delivering a well-run and engaging AGM.

That evening brought one of the highlights of the week, Nations Night. The ARTSA team proudly represented South Africa with our traditional snuff gun and brandy experience, finished off with the famous straw rum cookie. Tablers from around the world queued eagerly to take part, making it a resounding success.

### Closing on a High

Saturday began with the AMI Meeting, where exciting ideas and future collaborations were discussed. It was encouraging to see how other associations value RTSA's experience and leadership.

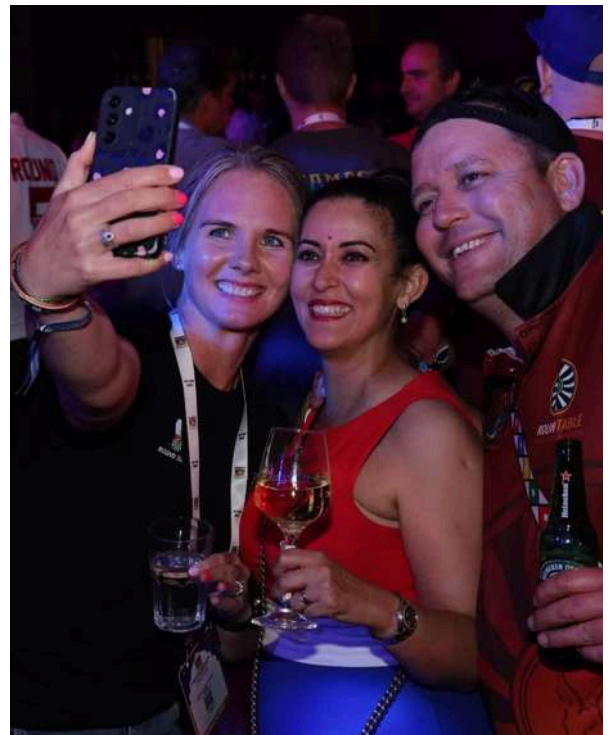
The week concluded with the Gala Dinner. While ARTSA did not receive an award this year, the unity and effort shown throughout the year leave me confident that recognition is close. A special congratulations to Groot Voël Jacques van Wyk on receiving a well-deserved Service Medal.

### Final Reflections

Before we knew it, it was time to return home, tired but inspired. In total, the journey included 23 hours of flying, 5 hours of public transport, 26 hours in terminals, and 13 hours of official meetings. Every moment was worthwhile. India impressed with its culture, hospitality, and incredible people. From the food to the friendships formed, it was an experience that will stay with us forever.

My sincere thanks to Mr. President, Mr. Vice President, Guy and Cara, Kama, Louis and Marlise, and especially my wife. Your support and camaraderie made this journey truly unforgettable.

This World Meeting was a powerful reminder that Round Table is built on fellowship without borders, shared purpose, and friendships that span the globe.





# THE ROAD TO ARTSA 2026

HOW FELLOWSHIP, MOMENTUM, AND UNMISTAKABLE ENERGY ARE SHAPING RTSA'S NEXT AGM

As Round Table Southern Africa moves confidently toward ARTSA 2026, one theme continues to rise above all others: GEES. According to RTSA ARTSA Convenor David Baker, the energy currently flowing through the association is unlike anything experienced before.

The strongest mark RTSA has made this term has been the deliberate and consistent promotion of GEES at Area Conferences across the country. From the moment members arrive to the final farewell, the atmosphere has been electric, creating an environment that is welcoming, motivating, and deeply connected. This focus, David believes, is setting the tone not only for ARTSA 2026, but for the future of the association as a whole.

Throughout the term, David has travelled extensively, visiting Areas and engaging with Tablers to promote ARTSA 2026. At every stop, the response has been overwhelmingly positive. The excitement is building fast, and the collective readiness for something truly special is clear. The support from Areas has reinforced the belief that ARTSA 2026 will be an event defined by unity, adventure, and authentic fellowship.

Drawing on the theme of Iron & Ink, David likens the journey to that of master blacksmiths at work. The iron represents the effort, planning, and commitment currently being invested, while the ink reflects the legacy being written through shared experiences and strengthened bonds. Each conversation, each visit, and each burst of GEES adds another line to the story being forged.

Set against the dramatic backdrop of the Drakensberg, ARTSA 2026 promises to be more than a conference. It is being shaped as an experience that celebrates everything Round Table stands for: brotherhood, connection, and service driven by purpose. The Drakensberg GEES awaits, and it is already calling.

David emphasises that the fellowship currently being experienced within RTSA is something special and worth protecting. When GEES is present, it inspires members, deepens relationships, and reminds everyone why they chose to Table. It is this energy that will carry RTSA forward and ensure that ARTSA 2026 becomes a defining moment in the association's story.



RTSA ARTSA COVENOR - DAVID BAKER



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ARTSA 2026**

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**What's Happening in  
THE AREAS**





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**Every Tabler forges his own path, shaped by effort, commitment, and hard work. Yet the marks we leave behind are cast from the same purpose: to serve with our hands, to uplift through action, and to strengthen the communities entrusted to us. As we move through the Areas, this section speaks not only to what we do in the present, but to what we leave behind. It is about the work we put in, and in the legacy of unity, impact, and lasting change we build across Southern Africa.**

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# BORDER

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# ROUND TABLE NO. 1 CHARITY GOLF DAY 2025

The 2025 Round Table No. 1 Charity Golf Day was far more than a golf tournament. It stood as a clear reflection of strength, unity, and shared purpose. While strong winds swept relentlessly across the fairways, the determination of those involved never wavered. Like iron strengthened under pressure, the Round Table fraternity stood firm, with every swing and every step carrying meaningful support for Mia Kumm.

A full field of 108 golfers took on the challenging conditions, driven not only by a love for the game, but by a desire to contribute to something greater. Each participant brought their own energy and commitment, becoming part of the collective force that defines the purpose of Round Table.

Across the course, the atmosphere was unmistakably vibrant. Sponsors infused the day with creativity and enthusiasm, creating engaging experiences that tested skill while encouraging laughter and camaraderie. From competitive chipping challenges to closest to the pin contests, the focus remained on participation, enjoyment, and heart.

One of the standout highlights was delivered by MFP Office Automation, fittingly described as one of the event's iron pillars. At Hole 1, their cutting edge ball tracking technology elevated the Longest Drive competition into one of the most precise and fiercely contested challenges of the day.

The programme began on a high note with a spirited putting competition, setting the tone for the hours that followed. As the wind grew sharper, Spur's well known halfway house burgers provided welcome relief, offering both comfort and renewed energy to golfers braving the elements.



As play concluded and golfers returned to the clubhouse, the momentum only grew stronger. The prize table reflected remarkable generosity, ensuring that every covey left with a tangible reminder of the day.

The auction that followed captured the true spirit of giving. With open hearts and enthusiastic bidding, the room filled with excitement and purpose. The highlight of the auction was a Garden Route Golf Tour, which achieved an impressive final bid of R14,000. By the close of proceedings, the auction alone had raised R47,000 in support of the cause.

By the end of the day, the event had generated just over R90,000. This figure represented far more than financial success. It stood as a testament to fellowship, resilience, and the power of a community united behind a shared goal.

## RTSA AT THE ROUND TABLE GERMANY AGM 2025

Round Table Southern Africa was proudly represented at the 2025 Annual General Meeting of Round Table Germany by Craig Fourie, Vice Chairman, PRO and IRO for the 2025/2026 year. The visit highlighted the strength of international fellowship and the shared values that unite Tablers across the globe.

Craig's journey took him from London to Bremen, where he was warmly welcomed by German and international Tablers alike. Despite a small accommodation mix-up, the spirit of brotherhood quickly prevailed, setting the tone for a weekend defined by support, camaraderie, and connection. Informal gatherings across the city created ideal opportunities for fellowship, including a relaxed evening aboard a Tabler's boat on the Bremen canals. Throughout these engagements, South Africa's beauty and the upcoming ARTSA Drakensberg AGM in 2026 were actively promoted, generating strong interest among international attendees.

Day two included city tours, social events, and a local beer festival, where Craig assisted Nicholas Austin of Cape Town 9 and the Western Cape Area with selling a special Robertson's Round Table wine linked to a men's mental health initiative. The project was met with great enthusiasm and successfully raised funds for the cause.

The AGM itself was a memorable experience, opening with a Round Table song sung by a packed arena of proud Tablers. The scale, organisation, and atmosphere of the event reflected the strength of Round Table Germany and its members. That evening's gala dinner welcomed nearly 1,000 attendees and provided another opportunity to support the Western Cape project, with a wine auction raising 700 euros to resounding applause.

The visit concluded with farewells and reflection on the power of international unity, reinforced by the strong presence of Ladies Circle and the sense of shared purpose throughout the weekend. Gratitude is extended to Round Table Grahamstown 11, Eastern Province Area, Round Table Southern Africa, and Round Table Germany for making this experience possible.

The AGM served as a powerful reminder of what can be achieved when Tablers stand together, united by fellowship, service, and friendship across borders.





# BOSVELD

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# MOEGGESUKKEL PROJECT: TEN NEW HOMES AND FRESH HOPE DELIVERED

A dream has officially become reality in Pretoria, where 10 Wendy houses, valued at R50,000 each, have been completed and handed over at the Moeggesukkel community project.

The initiative, led by Round Table Pretoria Collective in partnership with GROOTfm 90.5, has provided safe, secure, and dignified housing for 20 people in need. To ensure these homes are not just walls but true places of comfort, GROOTfm also sponsored 20 brand-new beds worth R20,000. What started as a vision to restore dignity and hope has grown into a tangible community achievement.

“Every home delivered here is more than bricks and mortar, it’s about giving people the foundation to rebuild their lives,” said a Round Table representative.

Organisers and beneficiaries alike describe the project as proof of the incredible change that can happen when businesses, organisations, and communities join hands.

With the houses now standing tall, families who once faced uncertainty can finally look forward to a future filled with stability, safety, and hope.



## PARTNERSHIP OF PURPOSE: RECREATION CENTRE FOR ANGELS HOTEL

In Eloff Street, Pretoria, hope is being built brick by brick at the Angels Hotel Centre for Disabled Children, thanks to a collaboration between Round Table 136 Pretoria, Build It Pretoria West, and Round Table’s international fraternity.

The project is the construction of a new recreation centre designed specifically for children living with disabilities. Once complete, the facility will provide a safe space for children to laugh, play, and grow with dignity.

**“This isn’t just a building. It’s a symbol of unity, love, and the global spirit of Round Table,”** organisers said. The international involvement highlights the strength of the Round Table network, with support pouring in from members across the globe.

Families and caregivers say the centre will be a much-needed addition, offering both physical and emotional relief to children who often have limited spaces to socialise and experience joy. The project demonstrates the power of partnerships between local businesses, global networks, and community-driven organisations to create lasting change.



## TRIUMPH AFTER TRAGEDY

A story of determination and community spirit has brought inspiration to Pretoria after Johan, a dedicated Boiler Maker at Tekbro Engineering, was able to walk again following a life-changing accident.

After a tragic tractor accident, Johan lost both of his legs. Despite the setback, his resilience shone through, he continued working, welding, and even climbing ladders, refusing to let his disability define him.

This remarkable perseverance caught the attention of community partners. Thanks to the generosity of Ice Express and GROOTfm 90.5, who sponsored the full cost of more than R90,000, Johan received two prosthetic legs and rehabilitation support.

Today, Johan is walking again, with renewed hope for the future.

Round Table 136 Pretoria, together with supporters and donors, expressed gratitude to everyone who contributed to making this miracle possible.

**“Johan’s story shows what happens when a community unites behind one of its own. It’s proof that hope and generosity can overcome even the greatest challenges,”** organisers said.



# ROUND TABLE PIETERSBURG 22'S INTERNATIONAL TOUR

Tablers from around the world gathered to celebrate and enjoy fellowship during Pietersburg 22's International Tour held in August. The guests travelled from Finland, Norway, Germany, Italy, Sweden, and Switzerland to enjoy South Africa's extraordinary diversity, breathtaking scenery, and exceptional hospitality. Time slowed down while sitting next to the glow of a South African bonfire where friendships formed, stories unfold, laughter filled the air and memories were made that will last long after the flames have faded.

The memorable journey started in Bela-Bela where the sights of Mabalingwe were enjoyed and close-up elephant encounters at Adventure with Elephants left a footprint of amazement and a deep connection with the efforts to preserve South Africa's majestic wildlife. Mouthwatering cuisine embracing our South African spirit including succulent braai meat, hearty potjiekos, steaming pap and sauce, warm malva pudding, local beers and glasses brimming with brandy and coke were enjoyed by guests and locals alike. Life's greatest moments happen when you least expect them, sitting next to a fire, air filled with the smell of grilled meat, enjoying food and lost in conversation amongst fellow tablers. Followed by a few days spent at Lenyati Safari's near Alldays were watching a pride of lions and seeing Africa's magical tree of life the Baobab up close created a deep sense of awe and connection to nature and history. The Baobab tree reminds us as tablers to live with a purpose, stand strong through the storms of life and give back to our fellow humans with quiet grace.

The tour concluded with a spectacular weekend at The Ranch near Polokwane. The gala dinner honoured Pietersburg 22's extraordinary milestone, the 70th anniversary. During this momentous celebration old tablers' shared their most cherished Pietersburg 22 memories and stories. We are proud to say it was not only a celebration of the past, but also a toast to the future of fellowship, friendship and upholding of Round Table values.

The tour succeeded in building friendship, fellowship and strong social connections among tablers from around the world. Reminding us that as tablers "Alone we can do so little: together we can do so much" Helen Keller. I would like to conclude with two tour quotes from our fellow international tablers. "I would like to express my heartfelt thanks for the unique experience we shared at the RT-22 Numbers Meeting in South Africa. It was truly an unforgettable event, filled with memorable moments, genuine camaraderie, and an incredible sense of community. A special thanks goes to fellow RT-22 Pieterburg Tablers and your wives for your warm hospitality and for opening your lives to us – showing how you live, celebrate, and spend time with your friends. Your kindness and openness made this journey truly special, and these memories will stay with us for a lifetime. Until we meet again – thank you for everything!" Tommi Juntikka from Finland. Also, Veli-Matti Anttila from Finland "I found myself in Osaka after 35 hours and 22000 kilometers from Johannesburg. With average speed of 630 km/h, including 9 hours of stopovers, I can confirm that it's the double brandy with coke that gives you wings, not redbull. Thank you for the magnificent moments in SA!". It was and is a privilege and honour to share the Round Table's values, joy and unity amongst fellow tablers.





# DRAKENSBERG

# REIGNITING THE SPARK IN THE DRAK AREA

The past term proved to be a demanding one for the Drak Area. Attendance at meetings declined, and in some cases, clubs were forced to postpone gatherings as everyday responsibilities took priority. Even the Tri Area meeting hosted at Dragon Peaks saw lower than expected representation from the Area, serving as a clear indicator that a shift was needed.

The challenge facing the Drak Area was not a lack of passion or commitment. Instead, it was the weight of fatigue and over commitment. Members were stretched thin, and projects that once generated excitement were no longer delivering the same energy or impact. Recognising this early was critical, and decisive action followed.

The Area began by reassessing its project load. Initiatives that were placing unnecessary strain on members or failing to deliver meaningful community impact were either adjusted or paused. The focus moved towards creating moments that reignited enthusiasm, projects filled with genuine energy and strong gees. Alongside this, Tablers were encouraged to raid and support neighbouring Tables within the Area, bringing fresh momentum and renewed connection where it was needed most.



**“Leadership isn’t just about meetings and projects; it’s about recognising when the spark has dimmed and taking steps to reignite it.”**

A key turning point came when the Area Chairman and Area Vice Chairman took to the road. By visiting Tables in person, engaging directly with members, and having honest conversations about what was working and what was not, they helped restore focus and direction. The results were almost immediate. Meeting attendance began to improve, project participation increased, and the sense of excitement across the Area steadily returned.

This term highlighted an important truth about leadership. It extends beyond maintaining meeting schedules and ticking off projects. True leadership lies in recognising when the spark has faded and taking deliberate steps to reignite it. Through teamwork, renewed focus, and a willingness to adapt, the Drak Area has emerged stronger, more connected, and better positioned for the road ahead.

As the year draws to a close, the Area does so with confidence and momentum, ready to finish on a high. Appreciation is extended to every Tabler who stepped up, adapted to change, and played a role in restoring the energy that defines Tabling at its best. Turning challenges into opportunities and rediscovering the fun along the way remains what this movement is all about.

## TUGELA 202 POWERS THE BERG & BUSH CYCLE RACE



Round Table Tugela 202 had the honour of hosting a water point during the legendary Berg & Bush Cycle Race on 1 and 8 June 2025. The experience perfectly blended camaraderie, community spirit, and good fun under the South African sun.

The Tugela 202 team embraced the theme of a “Petrol / Fill-Up Station,” an inspired choice given their prime position just below the Spioenkop Monument Site. Here, riders faced the final, grueling uphill stretch before the finish line, making the stop an ideal point for an extra boost of motivation and refreshment.

The water point offered cyclists a variety of “fuel” for their final push. From bananas, sweets, steak, wors, and jelly babies, to Energade and, for the bravest riders, ice-cold beer or a cheeky brandy mix, the spread left no one wanting. Good tunes, high spirits, and plenty of encouragement ensured that the Tugela 202 crew lifted riders’ energy as they tackled the final stretch.

The effort and creativity of the team did not go unnoticed. Tugela 202 proudly won the award for Best Watering Hole (Refuelling Stop), a reflection of their dedication, teamwork, and infectious energy. Acknowledgement is extended to the Berg & Bush organisers for orchestrating another epic event, and to all Tablers, 41ers, their partners, and children who came together to make the water point a resounding success. The day was a true embodiment of Round Table values, community, fellowship, and fun, creating memories that will be cherished long after the last rider crossed the finish line.



# EASTERN PROVINCE

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# 2ND ASSCO HOSTED IN KIRKWOOD

Round Table Kirkwood 78 had the honour of hosting the 2nd ASSCO over the past weekend, delivering a memorable blend of fellowship, hospitality, and Round Table spirit.

The weekend began on Friday evening with a steak braai, providing the perfect opportunity for meaningful connections and camaraderie among attendees. On Saturday morning, ASSCO members convened with the Area Chairmen for the official meeting, while the accompanying ladies enjoyed a tour and activities at the newly opened Padel Courts, adding a touch of leisure and enjoyment to the proceedings.

The day concluded with a traditional lamb spitbraai, bringing members and guests together in celebration of another successful gathering. The event was a clear demonstration of the strength of fellowship and the renowned hospitality of Kirkwood 78.

Thanks were extended to all ASSCO members, Area Chairmen, and visiting Tables whose support and participation contributed to making the weekend a resounding success and a highlight on the Round Table calendar.



# BEHIND THE SCENES OF WILDSFEES 2025

At the heart of Wildsfees 2025 was a dedicated team from Round Table Kirkwood 78, the driving force behind the bars, energy, and smooth running of this iconic event.

Months of planning, long hours, and tireless effort went into ensuring the success of the festival. The commitment and enthusiasm of every Tabler, helper, and supporter made the experience memorable for all who attended.

Special recognition was given to Eastern Province Tablers who lent their support over the weekend, helping Kirkwood 78 maintain the high energy and seamless operation that Wildsfees is known for. Their contribution was greatly appreciated and highlighted the collaborative spirit that defines Round Table.

Thanks to the combined efforts of all involved, Wildsfees 2025 was a resounding success, showcasing the dedication, teamwork, and community spirit that Kirkwood 78 brings to every project.





# KIRKWOOD 78 HITS THE PADEL COURT



Round Table Kirkwood 78 recently had the privilege of participating in the opening week of Citrus Padel, a brand-new facility in Kirkwood. The evening was filled with fun, friendly competition, and a lively atmosphere, reflecting the enthusiasm and camaraderie of the Table.

Members of Kirkwood 78 expressed excitement for the potential this new facility holds for the community, seeing it as a positive addition that will bring people together and encourage active participation in sport. Appreciation was extended to the Citrus Padel team for the invitation, recognising their role in creating a vibrant space for the town.

The official grand opening is scheduled for 16 June 2025, promising an even bigger celebration and an opportunity for the community to experience the facility firsthand.



## CELEBRATING NELSON MANDELA DAY



In the spirit of giving back, Round Table Kirkwood 78 marked Nelson Mandela Day 2025 by donating ten rugby balls to the Kirkwood Rugby Club. The contribution aimed to support local sport, fostering teamwork, community spirit, and opportunities for young talent.

Sport continues to play a vital role in bringing people together, and this gesture underlined the Table's commitment to nurturing passion and potential within the Kirkwood community.

As Nelson Mandela famously said, ***"Sport has the power to change the world. It has the power to inspire. It has the power to unite people in a way that little else does."***

Through initiatives like this, Kirkwood 78 continues to embody that philosophy, creating impact both on and off the field.

## BRINGING WARMTH TO THE COMMUNITY THIS WINTER

Through the generous support of their community, Round Table Kirkwood 78 was able to donate warm clothing to three remarkable organisations this year; Bersig Service Centre, Omgee Elize Erasmus, and Machaba Health Welfare.

These donations made a tangible difference in the lives of those facing the cold this winter, demonstrating the impact of community generosity and care.

A special highlight came through the Winter Knights project, which received an uplifting boost thanks to the team at ACVV Valleihof. The Kirkwood 78 team was welcomed with open arms and warm hearts as ACVV Valleihof handed over a generous donation of winter clothes and blankets.

This act of kindness will bring both comfort and dignity to many in need, illustrating the power of collaboration and shared purpose. Kirkwood 78 expressed deep appreciation to ACVV Valleihof for standing alongside them in this initiative. Together, they continue to wrap the community in warmth, one blanket at a time.





# A NEW TABLER'S JOURNEY

## FINDING FAMILY IN KIRKWOOD 78

Growing up in Kirkwood, one local resident had very little exposure to Round Table. For years, their only encounters were events such as “Steak Aand” and Wildsfees, where the organisation appeared to be all about fun for guests while Tablers worked tirelessly behind the scenes. From the outside, it seemed like a commitment they were not ready for.

When friends joined the Table, they noticed the strong bonds forming among Tablers, even among those who barely knew each other before. Despite this, the commitment of meetings, projects, and socials still seemed daunting, especially with a young family and a busy schedule.

Everything changed the day they were nominated. Kirkwood 78 personally visited the new member and their spouse. While excitement was mixed with hesitation at first, that feeling quickly vanished after becoming a pipeliner. From the very first day, they were welcomed as part of something larger, a community that felt like family. What once seemed like an obligation became a source of anticipation and joy, every meeting, every project, and every social event held meaning.

The most rewarding aspect has been the connection not only within their own Table, but across the broader Round Table community. At Kirkwood 78, everyone steps in wholeheartedly when help is needed, creating a sense of shared purpose and camaraderie.

Reflecting on the experience, the new Tabler expressed that the only regret is not joining sooner, having discovered the joy of giving back and being part of a close-knit, supportive community.



# JEFFREYS BAY/HUMANSDORP 252 FOCUSES ON

## RAID FOR GROWTH AND FELLOWSHIP

This year, Round Table Jeffreys Bay/Humansdorp 252 has made RAID a deliberate focus, recognising it as a cornerstone of Round Table tradition and a key driver of growth, fellowship, and inspiration.

RAID is about more than visits, it is about support, learning, and connection. By visiting other Tables, members share ideas, observe different ways of operating, and bring fresh perspectives back to their own Table. Each interaction infuses new energy and encourages innovation, strengthening both individual Tables and the broader Round Table family.

Throughout the year, 252 has developed a strong partnership with their buddy Table, Algoa 108. Members have joined each other's projects, meetings, team-building exercises, and social events, fostering a spirit of cooperation and mutual support. This collaboration motivates both Tables to continually improve and embrace best practices, while also deepening friendships and camaraderie.

Every RAID visit offers an opportunity to learn, grow, and encourage one another. While each Table approaches activities differently, the underlying spirit of service, fellowship, and brotherhood remains the same.

For Round Table Jeffreys Bay/Humansdorp 252, RAID is a means of growth, connection, and shared purpose. The bonds being built through these visits promise many more opportunities for collaboration, learning, and fun throughout the year.





# CELEBRATING WOMEN'S MONTH WITH WINE & YOGA



Round Table Jeffreys Bay/Humansdorp 252 believes that community service can be both meaningful and enjoyable. In celebration of Women's Month, the Table's ladies took the initiative to organise a unique project: a Wine & Yoga evening designed to combine relaxation, social connection, and giving back to the community. The event provided an opportunity for the women to take the lead on a project of their own, demonstrating creativity, organisation, and teamwork. Participants enjoyed a revitalising yoga session accompanied by a glass of wine, all while supporting a worthy cause.

Proceeds and donations from the evening were directed towards the purchase of sanitary and baby products for the Baby and Mom Clinic and Abba's House Ministries, both of which provide vital support to mothers and children in need. The Wine & Yoga evening was hailed as a resounding success, marked by energy, enthusiasm, and a strong sense of fellowship. The initiative highlighted how Round Table 252 thrives when members unite and contribute in diverse and imaginative ways, proving that community service can take many forms, even with a glass of wine in hand.



## ALEX/KENTON 210 BRINGS COMMUNITY SPIRIT TO ALEXANDRIA

Over the past few months, Round Table Alex/Kenton 210 has been quietly making a difference, demonstrating that the impact of their efforts often extends far beyond what is immediately visible.

On the weekend of 16 August 2025, the Table came together to support the Alexandria Old Age Home. Members took to the braai, cooking and serving around 50 boerie rolls despite a chilly courtyard "blizzard." The residents welcomed them with warm smiles and shared stories from their past, creating a heartfelt and memorable experience for everyone involved.

Later in the day, members turned their attention to another longstanding community project: supporting local rugby heroes Klipfontein United. Despite 22mm of rain falling during the match, the team in green and gold fought hard to maintain their top spot in the competition. Tablers cheered passionately from the sidelines, cold and soaked, yet fully committed to celebrating and encouraging their local athletes.

A special mention was made to RT 177 for joining the efforts and donating buns from a recent project, a gesture that was warmly appreciated by all involved. Through these initiatives, Alex/Kenton 210 continues to embody the spirit of fellowship, service, and dedication that defines Round Table, creating lasting impact and memorable moments within the community.



## CRADOCK 37 AND SANBS CELEBRATE HERITAGE DAY WITH SUCCESSFUL BLOOD DRIVE

On Heritage Day 2025, Round Table Cradock 37 partnered with the South African National Blood Service (SANBS) to host a highly successful blood drive, highlighting the community's spirit of giving.

The morning began with a chilly start, raising questions about turnout. However, as the sun broke through, so too did the generosity of the Cradock community, with residents turning out to "bleed for change" and support a vital cause.

No Heritage Day event would be complete without a braai. Every donor was treated to a delicious boerie roll, and refreshments were provided thanks to the generous sponsorship of Kelston Toyota Cradock's Pint for a Pint campaign.

By the end of the day, an impressive 43 pints of blood had been collected, making a tangible difference in the lives of those in need. The event concluded with fellowship and celebration at the Cradock Golf Club, reinforcing the community's commitment to service and camaraderie.





# THE AMAZING RACE 2025: A HERITAGE DAY TO REMEMBER

Heritage Day 2025 marked the return of The Amazing Race, hosted by Round Table Algoa 108, PE West 142, and Zwartkops 195. The event combined adventure, teamwork, and philanthropy, creating an unforgettable experience for all participants.

More than a competition, the race carried a meaningful purpose: supporting SANCCOB, the nonprofit organisation dedicated to the rescue, rehabilitation, and protection of South Africa's endangered seabirds, particularly the African penguin. Participants raced not only for the thrill of the challenge but also to contribute to wildlife conservation.

Teams navigated a series of creative checkpoints and challenges throughout Baywest Mall and surrounding areas. From quirky detours to brain-teasing puzzles, each task tested teamwork, endurance, and problem-solving skills. Laughter, excitement, and camaraderie filled the day, while raising awareness of the urgent plight of the African penguin.

This year saw a record number of teams, with creative costumes, witty names, and high spirits adding flair to the event. Spectators enjoyed live entertainment, food stalls, and interactive booths, further enhancing the vibrant Heritage Day atmosphere.

The day concluded with a prize-giving ceremony at Centre Stage, celebrating the top-performing teams and highlighting SANCCOB's invaluable conservation work.

The Amazing Race 2025 was more than a fundraiser, it was a movement, uniting families, friends, and corporate teams in a shared mission of fun, awareness, and purpose. The event showcased the Port Elizabeth Tables' ability to host community initiatives that entertain, educate, and make a tangible difference. Every step taken by participants contributed to the protection of penguins and the support of SANCCOB's vital environmental work.



## ROUND TABLE CRADOCK 37 WARMS THE COMMUNITY WITH WINTER KNIGHTS SOUP NIGHT

Round Table Cradock 37 recently hosted a Soup Night as part of the Winter Knights initiative, a project aimed at spreading warmth and kindness to those less fortunate. Community members were invited to donate a bowl of hot soup and bread, demonstrating that even small gestures can create a meaningful impact.

Tablers, alongside members of the community, delivered hot soup and bread to various locations across Cradock. Some residents visited the Round Table clubhouse to enjoy freshly prepared meals on-site, providing an opportunity to engage with the Table, learn about its mission, and gain a deeper understanding of the organisation's purpose.

The project also aligned with one of the key objectives for Table 2025: increasing Round Table's visibility and promoting its work within local communities.

A standout feature of the event was the participation of Table children in both the preparation and delivery of the soup. Their enthusiasm and commitment brought extra energy to the project, highlighting the next generation of Tablers and their role in carrying the organisation's spirit forward. To support the initiative, 120 double tickets were printed at R70 each, with 92 sold. The funds helped provide a variety of five different soup flavours, enough to serve approximately 200 people. The event successfully combined community engagement, service, and fellowship, leaving a lasting impression on both volunteers and recipients alike.



**“EVEN THE SMALLEST GESTURES CAN CREATE THE BIGGEST IMPACT,  
BRINGING WARMTH, KINDNESS, AND COMMUNITY TOGETHER.”**



# ROUND TABLE EASTERN PROVINCE TABLES FLOURISH THROUGH COLLABORATION AND CAMARADERIE

The Tables in the Eastern Province Area are in high spirits, reflecting the steady progress achieved through consistent effort over the past few years. Membership has grown steadily, with enthusiastic young men stepping up to get involved, bringing renewed energy and commitment to the area. The sense of optimism is palpable, with members embracing new ideas, projects, and initiatives that strengthen the Table experience.

A key driver of this positive momentum has been the Buddy Table System, designed to encourage Tables to support one another and maintain accountability, particularly with Area-level reporting. The system has fostered a strong sense of camaraderie, embodying the principle: “we win together, we lose together.” It has created an environment where Tables feel connected, responsible to one another, and motivated to excel, not only individually, but collectively.

The results of this initiative have been remarkable. Tables are collaborating more than ever, offering support, sharing ideas, and assisting one another in practical and meaningful ways. There has been a noticeable increase in members travelling to support fellow Tables, whether helping with projects, offering mentorship, or simply participating in events. These visits have become opportunities for learning, bonding, and strengthening the overall Round Table community.

**“WE WIN TOGETHER, WE LOSE TOGETHER.”**

Area meetings have also taken on a more lively and enjoyable atmosphere. Buddy tablers show up to cheer each other on, bringing enthusiasm, energy, and a healthy dose of humour. Even the dreaded Fines Sergeant’s “Health Tonics” have become moments of fun, with everyone embracing the lighter side of tradition. As the saying goes, “Ons lag en vrek saam.” These informal moments have fostered stronger friendships and encouraged a culture of engagement and participation that goes beyond formal obligations.

The Buddy Table System has also strengthened the network of tablers beyond individual clubs. Members are actively encouraging one another to take on additional responsibilities and step into Area portfolios. This not only strengthens the existing Table chain but extends it, creating a more resilient, connected, and adaptable community. Mentorship, guidance, and support have become cornerstones of the area’s success, inspiring new members to get involved and experienced members to continue leading with energy and commitment.

Moreover, the area has seen a positive shift in engagement with projects and social initiatives. Tables are increasingly willing to collaborate, sharing resources, expertise, and manpower to ensure that events run smoothly and that community initiatives reach their full potential. The Buddy Table System has encouraged a culture where no Table stands alone, where every effort is amplified through teamwork, and where the shared mission of service and fellowship is celebrated.

The Eastern Province Area is proud of the progress achieved through collaboration, mentorship, and a shared sense of purpose. The success of the Buddy Table System has shown the power of connection, accountability, and camaraderie, creating an environment where growth, learning, and enjoyment go hand in hand. Looking forward, the area is excited to explore what else can be Adopted, Adapted, and Improved, confident that the spirit of fellowship will continue to drive the Tables toward even greater success.



**This is Round Table!**



# FREESTATE

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# BLOEMFONTEIN 158 NUMBERS MEETING IN THE NETHERLANDS

**Juno De Castro - RT158**

It is with great appreciation that I take this opportunity to reflect on the memorable Round Table 158 numbers meeting we attended in Bodegraven-Reeuwijk, The Netherlands, from June 26 to July 6, 2025.

Our journey began on June 25, 2025, as we departed from OR Tambo International Airport, landing the following day at Schiphol Airport in Amsterdam, where all the excitement truly began. My fellow Tabler, Gerrit Klopper, and I were warmly welcomed by an experienced Tabler from Bodegraven. He kindly collected us at the airport and took us to his boat home in the charming town of Monnickendam, located about 15 kilometres from Amsterdam. The breathtaking scenery and well-preserved historic architecture of this quaint town left a lasting impression on us, reflecting the rich heritage of one of the Netherlands' oldest settlements.

The next day, our pre-tour adventures continued as we explored the vibrant city of Amsterdam. We embraced the local culture by renting bicycles and navigating the city's unique road system, where, unlike South Africa, cyclists are given priority. This immersive experience provided us with a fresh and thrilling perspective of urban travel.

Following Amsterdam, we were picked up by our friend Sacha Labohm from Xanten, Germany, where we spent a few wonderful days. On Monday, July 1, we made our way back to Bodegraven to commence the official numbers meeting tour. It was at this point that Louis Radley joined us for the week. Throughout the event, I reconnected with old friends, forged new relationships, and experienced firsthand the unique spirit of international fellowship that Table offers.

Attending this meeting was a tremendous honour and provided a new perspective on Table life beyond our familiar surroundings. The Netherlands, known for its lush greenery, welcoming people, and law-abiding citizens, graciously hosted us and offered an unforgettable experience exploring their beautiful country.

I would like to extend an encouragement to every Tabler: seize the opportunity at least once during your tabling career to attend your table's numbers meeting or, even better, an international Table event. You will be amazed at how the fellowship shared among Table members transforms strangers into lifelong friends, enriching your Table journey in ways you never imagined.

This journey epitomizes the spirit of brotherhood and adventure that defines Table, and I look forward to many more inspiring experiences like this in the years to come.



## RT BETHLEHEM 60 WINTER NIGHTS

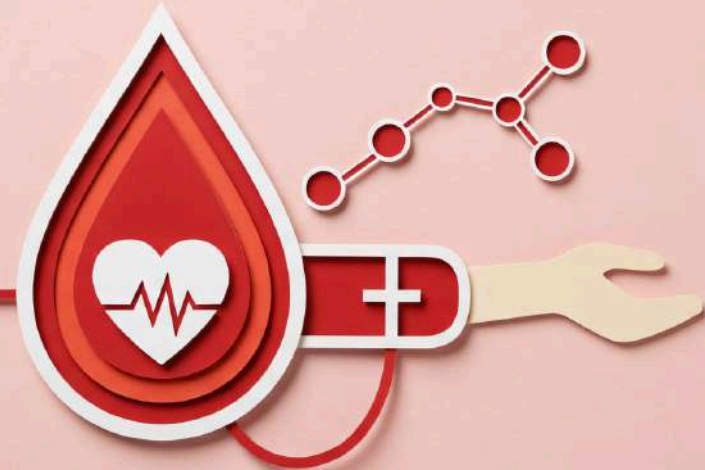
Winter Nights is an annual initiative by Round Table Southern Africa, to assist people in need during the winter months. It involves collecting warm clothing, blankets and food to donate to those facing the harsh conditions and challenges of winter. The project aims to bring warmth and comfort to individuals and families who lack adequate clothing and shelter.

On Saturday, 24 May 2025 Round Table Bethlehem 60 Knights hosted our Winter Nights Project. This year we decided to bring in a fun element and combine it with a bowls day. Although members of the local community had been generous with donations leading up to the day, the aim was to ask teams to donate clothes, blankets and food as part of their entry fee. This worked wonders with 26 teams participating on the day, providing immense contributions. Our main sponsors for the day were Morgan Isuzu and Haval.

This was a well-organized day as one of friendship and laughter, and to crown it all a very enjoyable braai was held for all participants.







# FREESTATE BLOOD DRIVES

## YOUR COUNTRY, YOUR HERITAGE, YOU CAN MAKE THE DIFFERENCE

Heritage month was extra special this year with Round Table Welkom 40 celebrating our countries heritage day on 24 September 2025. How else to celebrate our past heritage by actually celebrating our future heritage insuring the sustainability of life in our country. So how do you insure the sustainability of lives, you save them. Round Table Welkom 40 in an alliance partnership with the SANBS that was supported by a national campaign driven by Round Table Southern Africa, we did our part to yet again drive a successful blood drive on Heritage day 2025 in the Goldfields area. The Bleed of Change initiative driven by Round Table Southern Africa connects and unites the whole country to make a difference of our future heritage. The men from Welkom 40 diced to go the extra mile this round by again driving social media on this project, securing blood donation pledges from the public, radio interviews, posters put up around our community and even sponsoring a heritage famous Boerewors Roll to say thanks to each doner of the day. The result was great with 43 units blood donated in Welkom, 25 units in Virginia and 21 units collected in Ventersburg we are proud and blessed to say we did our part in the Goldfields area by saving lives for the future of a beautiful South African heritage that will be celebrated for many years ahead.



## THE WHOLE WORLD GIVES BLOOD

World Blood Donor day was celebrated on 14 June 2025 and Round Table Welkom 40 can proudly say they were part of this great initiative to save lives once again. With yet another successful alliance project with Round Table Welkom 40 and the Welkom SANBS doner centre we partnered up together to promote and set up a mobile blood doner centre at Goldfields Mall in our lovely golden city of circles Welkom, Free State. From driving social media, radio interviews and even handing out bread and a warm cup of soup for each doner of the day we as Round Table Welkom 40 can only say what a privilege it is to support this wonderful cause to save lives. Every unit of extra blood donated makes the worlds difference and driving a blood drive to reach 48 units of blood donated with a huge percentage of new doners that in return could potentially save 144 lives is just what we stand for. Round Tabel Welkom 40 will continue to strive and take part in supporting our alliance partners the SANBS to make an impactful change in our beautiful world we live in.



## HARRISMITH BLOOD DRIVE

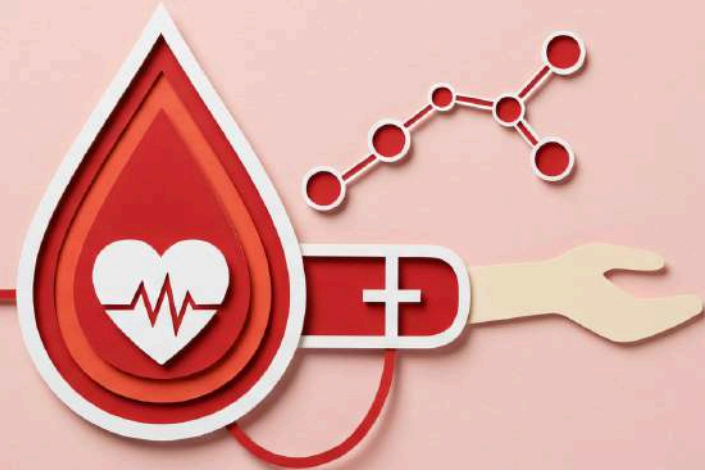
On the second of September 2025 Harrismith partnered up with SANBS for an annual Blood drive project.

This was a perfect opportunity for not only Round Tabel Harrismith, but also for the whole community to step up and make a difference in the lives of so many people.

We would like to thank the community of Harrismith and all the tablers who took the time to make a change, and we look forward to doing it again.







# FREESTATE BLOOD DRIVES

## MIMOSA MALL BLOOD DRIVE WITH ROUND TABLE BLOEMFONTEIN

On Heritage Day, Round Table Bloemfontein joined forces with SANBS at Mimosa Mall for an awesome Alliance Project event focused on giving back through blood donation. It was a fantastic day where we rolled up our sleeves, donated blood, and motivated everyone around us to do the same.

The event was all about celebrating our heritage by showing real care for the community. Our members, alongside SANBS staff, spread the message about how a simple act like donating blood can save lives. People passing through Mimosa Mall were encouraged to get involved, ask questions, and sign up as donors on the spot.

We loved seeing the energy and willingness from the community to come together for this cause. Heritage Day was the perfect moment to remind everyone that preserving our culture also means looking out for each other's health and wellbeing. By donating blood, we were not only honouring our roots but also creating a positive impact for those in need.

The day ended on a high note with many first-time donors stepping up and lots of motivation to keep the spirit of giving alive long after Heritage Day. This joint effort between Round Table Bloemfontein and SANBS truly showed how unity and compassion make our community stronger. We are truly proud and grateful for the community of Bloemfontein that came out in numbers to donate, this made it possible for the Bloemfontein leg of the Blood drive to collect 64 pints of blood that will ultimately save 192 lives.

We invite everyone to regularly donate blood, as it not only saves lives but also offers several health benefits for the donor.



# GAUTENG



# IRON FROM EVERY CORNER IN GAUTENG

By Phillip “Kiewiet” Van Wyk III

Area Chairman of Roundtable Gauteng, this year has been both a test and a privilege. Under the theme Iron from Every Corner, I am called to reflect on the challenges we've faced, the ways we've overcome them, and the story we've written together as an area. For Gauteng, the toughest challenge has not been external, but internal – the challenge of unity. Bringing our members together, ensuring that bonds were built across Tables, and creating a space where every voice carried equal weight was no easy task. With busy schedules, different personalities, and the demands of everyday life, narrowing down our meeting times and maintaining consistent attendance became an ongoing hurdle.

The way forward was clear: inclusion and equality. From the outset, I set out to remove any sense of hierarchy. No matter the role or the title, every man in Gauteng Roundtable had to know that he stood on equal ground with his fellow members. We are not individuals pulling in different directions, but one collective – united by our love for Roundtable, our commitment to service, and our loyalty to one another.

Another key challenge was the length and structure of our meetings. Too often, long and stretched-out sessions drained energy and eroded enthusiasm. I looked to the example of my predecessors and tightened our reporting structures, making sure that preparation was done well in advance. This allowed us to save valuable time and focus on the heart of our meetings: connecting, planning, and enjoying the fellowship we share.

On a more personal note, I made every effort to engage with our members beyond the formality of meetings. Whether at events, over a phone call, or simply in conversation, I wanted every member to feel seen, heard, and valued. Whether I fully succeeded in this, only time will tell – but I know that the attempt itself has brought us closer as an Area.

And so, the iron of Gauteng lies in our principles of inclusion, equality, and discipline. We strive to hold firm to the belief that no man stands above another, and that our time together must be both purposeful and enjoyable. The ink we write with is the story of overcoming disconnection through unity, of transforming meetings into moments of fellowship, and of building bonds that will outlast titles and terms.

As part of the great machine of Roundtable Southern Africa, Gauteng adds its own metal to the whole – strong, resilient, and sharpened by the challenges we have faced. Together with every other Area, we prove that true strength lies in the diversity of our irons, fused together by shared purpose and brotherhood.

# WEEK OF WONDER

Written by Jaco du Preez

Round Table Golden East 181 invited young hearts to a week of wonder and adventure. The tablers were thrilled to be part of a holiday journey that promised joy, laughter, and unforgettable firsts for children from local havens.

This annual initiative brings together energy, compassion, and community spirit, creating lifelong memories for youngsters who might never have had such experiences. From Sunday, 5 October through to Saturday, 11 October, Golden East 181 hosted, accompanied, and guided a vibrant group of children through a week of exploration, fun and discovery. The talented team of tablers, minders, and volunteers had crafted a full schedule of activities designed to both thrill and nurture. With morning rituals and team time each day began with breakfast, prepping, and a team building activity laying the foundation for bonds to grow and for the kids to feel safe, supported, and ready for the day's adventures.

The excursions included activities and surprises like visits to Carnival City, drumming and hip-hop workshops, Acro Branch adventures, Wii Jump sessions, paper-plane competitions, and even PS2 tournaments. There was truly never a dull moment. Community engagements and hand-out sessions at middays and afternoons would often include gifts, surprise treats or learning opportunities. On designated days, Golden East 181 partnered with nearby community hubs which included Total Ninja, and the local museums to bring more variety and connection.

Post-activity time was reserved for winding down with evenings of warmth and togetherness, dinners included pizza nights visits to RocoMama, Nando's and Spur. There was also movie evenings under the stars, magician shows, and quiet reflections on the daily activities.

On the last day of the adventure the children packed up, said their goodbyes, and returned home, hearts full, spirits renewed and minds enriched by new friendships and experiences. For many of these children, this week isn't just a break from their daily routine, it's a voyage into possibility. It's the first time some will see parts of the city beyond their immediate surroundings. They get to learn new skills, laugh with new friends, or simply feel that they belong. The care, planning, and resources donated by Golden East 181 and their supporters turn this journey into something truly life-affirming and through such initiatives leaves a mark – a legacy of caring and possibilities.

None of this is possible without generous donors, sponsors, and fellow tablers who heed the call for support. Whether it was contributing to meals, activity fees, transport, or small surprises and gifts, every bit mattered and every bit made a difference in the lives of those children. The support helped the table send about 15 children into a week of wonder, giving them stories to carry long after the trip ended.

# NORTHRIDGE TAKING KIDS TO THE SEA

Written by Jaco du Preez

Every year, Round Table Northridge 117 embarks on a project that captures the true spirit of fellowship, community, and giving back. This year was no different, as the Northridge team, together with five other tables, created unforgettable memories for children from Saint Lawrence Haven – many of whom had never seen the ocean before.

Ten excited youngsters set off with Northridge 117 On Saturday 27 September on the journey of a lifetime. Their first stop was with the Harrismith 140 tablers, who hosted them on a farm for a traditional South African braai. The children enjoyed wide open spaces, the chance to play in nature, and even got to see a variety of animals up close. The following morning, Harrismith 140 surprised each child with a special gift before the group continued their adventure down to Margate.

Arriving in Margate, the children were warmly welcomed by the Margate 46 tablers. From Sunday afternoon until early Friday morning, Margate became the home base for a week packed with fun, adventure, and first-time experiences.

On Monday, the group visited the Riverbend Crocodile Farm where the kids encountered fascinating reptiles before heading to the beach for their very first ocean swim. Tuesday brought more beach time and poolside fun, while Wednesday was the highlight for many – a full day at the massive Wild Waves Waterpark, followed by more seaside play.

Thursday's itinerary was just as exciting. At San Lameer, the children enjoyed hands-on activities, including building their own pizzas, before being showered with gifts from their generous hosts. That evening, the Margate 46 tablers hosted a magical Christmas party where one member dressed up as Santa to deliver sponsored gifts to every child, followed by a festive braai.

Early Friday morning, the group departed for Durban, where Durban 2 and Umhlanga 155 welcomed them with open arms. The day was spent exploring Ushaka Marine World – from thrilling dolphin shows to fascinating marine tours. After a hearty lunch with the Durban tables, the journey continued to Pietermaritzburg, where PMB 12 hosted the group with their trademark hospitality and ensured each child received another gift.

On Saturday, the Northridge team and their young companions returned home to Johannesburg, their hearts full and spirits lifted by a week of adventure, laughter, and love.

This annual project is more than just a trip; it's a life-changing experience for children who may never have had the chance to explore beyond their haven. Thanks to the incredible generosity and fellowship of the participating tables – Northridge 117, Harrismith 140, Margate 46, Durban 2, Umhlanga 155, and PMB 12 – ten young lives were filled with wonder, joy, and unforgettable memories.

It's a shining reminder that when communities come together, magic truly happens. Small actions today can be the building blocks of a beautiful legacy that can last a lifetime, a real result of #impactfulchange.



# MPUMALANGA

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# KEEPING THE MPUMALANGA SPIRIT ALIVE

BY CARL VAN STADEN - MPUMALANGA AREA CHAIRMAN

The Mpumalanga Area has experienced a roller-coaster term so far, with highs, lows, and plenty of moments that have strengthened fellowship and camaraderie among its Tablers. Despite facing the challenges common to all areas in Round Table Southern Africa, Mpumalanga has managed to maintain strong energy and a shared sense of purpose throughout the term.

The Winter Conference went off without a hitch, offering members a chance to enjoy fellowship, watch live rugby at Mbombela Stadium, and share plenty of laughs. Shortly thereafter, the BMG meeting provided further opportunities for learning and collaboration. Although it was the longest of the three area meetings, it proved to be highly productive and rewarding, offering valuable insights to guide the area forward.

A key takeaway this term has been the importance of going back to basics. By focusing on pre-meeting preparation, keeping accounts in order, and ensuring efficient Table transactions, Mpumalanga has created a smoother-running area and strengthened connections within the Round Table family. These small yet essential efforts have made a noticeable difference in overall operations and member engagement. Looking ahead, the Mpumalanga Area is committed to building on this momentum, confident that with continued dedication, the term will conclude on a high note.

A heartfelt thank-you goes to all Tablers for their commitment, enthusiasm, and for keeping the Mpumalanga spirit alive. Together, the area is turning challenges into opportunities, making this a truly remarkable Table year.



## A HERITAGE DAY BLOOD DRIVE

On 24 September 2025, Round Table Secunda 231, in proud collaboration with SANBS Secunda and with the support of Vox, came together for a cause that blended community service with meaningful impact: gathering iron (blood) to create ink (stories). The mission was simple yet powerful, to collect as much blood as possible so that others could continue to write the stories of their lives.

Held in the spirit of Heritage Day, the community responded with incredible enthusiasm. Donors lined up to give blood, greeted warmly by SANBS staff, who accepted each donation with smiles and heartfelt thanks. Round Table Secunda 231 kept spirits high throughout the day, providing gees, ice-cold beers, and refreshing cooldrinks for every hero who rolled up their sleeve. Vox added to the festivities, treating every donor to a free boerewors roll and ensuring the giving spirit was matched with good vibes all around. By the end of the day, an impressive 31 units of blood had been collected.

Although the Tablers themselves were unable to donate on the day, falling just short of the required 56-day waiting period, they honoured their commitment two days later. On 26 September, the members made their way to the SANBS Secunda Donor Centre, contributing blood, plasma, and platelets as part of the SANBS 2-Year Apheresis Special Unit Anniversary. Remarkably, this dedication came just hours before embarking on a three-and-a-half-hour drive to the BMG at Weesgerus, demonstrating the Tablers' unwavering commitment to service and their "give back first" mentality.

Through this event, Round Table Secunda 231 not only helped save lives but also set an example of community spirit, dedication, and teamwork. The Heritage Day blood drive showcased the power of collective action and reinforced the Tablers' mission: turning small acts of service into meaningful impact for the community.



**Rolling up a sleeve today  
can write the story  
of someone's tomorrow.**



# NAMIBIA

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# FORGED FROM SMALL CHANGE, STRENGTH IN EVERY MARK: **ROUND TABLE HOCHLAND 154'S N\$5 PROJECT**

**What difference can five dollars make?** For Round Table Hochland 154, the answer is clear:  
**it can feed a family, restore dignity, and strengthen the chain of community.**

Through the N\$5 Project, Round Table Hochland 154 has transformed small change into meaningful impact. With the support of SuperSpar Grove Mall, SuperSpar Maerua, Ultimate Safaris Namibia, Future Media, and Ladies Circle Namibia, a simple N\$5 added at the till becomes food, dignity, and hope for families in need.

Since launch, six successful drives have raised over N\$142,000 in goods, all distributed on the same day they are collected. The strength of the project lies in its simplicity and immediacy, proving that collective action does not need to be loud to be powerful.

The N\$5 Project is a reminder that real change often starts quietly, with a single coin, a shared purpose, and a community in motion.



## PEHOVELO'S STORY OF STRENGTH AND RESTORATION

AFTER MORE THAN THREE YEARS OF UNWAVERING EFFORT, PEHOVELO NGHITUKUHAMBA OF SWAKOPMUND UNDERWENT LIFE-CHANGING SURGERY IN AUGUST 2025, A MOMENT FORGED FROM PERSISTENCE, COMPASSION, AND COMMUNITY. THIS MILESTONE IS NOT ONLY A MEDICAL ACHIEVEMENT BUT ALSO THE CULMINATION OF YEARS OF SOLIDARITY, GUIDED BY THE SPIRIT OF ROUND TABLE SWAKOPMUND 145, WHOSE MEMBERS REFUSED TO LET HOPE FADE.

**Every act of service  
leaves a mark  
that cannot be erased.**



**P**ehovelo's story is etched deeply into the hearts of those who know him. At just four months old, tragedy struck when burglars threw a burning object through the window of his family's home in the DRC settlement of Swakopmund. It landed where he slept, causing severe third-degree burns to his face, arms, and hands.

The injuries were devastating. He lost his nose and left ear and endured extensive damage to both hands, leaving his fingers fused and immobile. Despite countless surgeries, long hospital stays, and years of therapy, his mobility remained limited. Yet, through every challenge, Pehovelo stood as a symbol of courage, his spirit unbroken.

Over the past few years, Round Table Swakopmund 145, alongside residents, donors, and sponsors, rallied behind him, raising funds, awareness, and unwavering support. Each contribution became another piece of metal in the engine of hope that would one day restore his ability to move, create, and dream.

**"His unbound hands now tell a story of courage, community, and care."**

Their collective determination culminated on 14 August 2025, when a skilled team of surgeons performed a complex operation to restore function to Pehovelo's hands. The procedure involved releasing severe contractures and grafting new skin to rebuild flexibility. His left hand, once locked at a 90-degree angle, was straightened, and several digits were freed, movements many take for granted, but for Pehovelo, a liberation.

The surgery was a success. While future reconstructive procedures may still be required, this first step has already transformed limitation into possibility, redefining what Pehovelo can achieve.

For Round Table Swakopmund 145, this project embodies the true essence of strength in compassion, resilience in action, and unity in service. The Table extends heartfelt thanks to every donor, sponsor, and individual who believed in the mission. A special tribute goes to Liesel Scheffer, the Occupational Therapist who first brought Pehovelo's story to the Table's attention and has guided him through every step of his rehabilitation.

As Pehovelo begins his next chapter, his unbound hands symbolize more than mobility, they represent what can be achieved when hearts unite, compassion turns into action, and a community's iron will is inked into a single life's story.

In the machine that is Round Table Southern Africa, every piece of metal contributes to motion, and every act of service leaves a mark that cannot be erased.





### **Want to see your business in the spotlight?**

Book your space in the next issue of **Inkundla** or the **Table Talk Podcast** and create a buzz that reaches every corner of Round Table Southern Africa.

**Contact:** Henning de Wet – Inkundla Editor  
[pro@roundtable.co.za](mailto:pro@roundtable.co.za)



# NATAL SOUTH COAST AREA

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# LIFEBLOOD OF THE COMMUNITY NSCA ANSWERS THE CALL

With Round Table Southern Africa's new partnership with the South African National Blood Service, the clubs of the Natal South Coast Area rose to the challenge with enthusiasm and purpose. Across the Area, Tablers joined forces with local SANBS teams to host blood drives that reflected the very heart of Round Table: service through action and impact that reaches far beyond ourselves.

These drives were not only about collecting blood, they were about building community, strengthening partnerships, and quite literally giving life. By the end of September, three of the five NSCA clubs had already hosted successful blood drives, demonstrating what can be achieved when brotherhood and community unite around a common cause.

## Round Table Margate 46

On Heritage Day, Round Table Margate 46 partnered with SANBS to host a vibrant community blood drive at the Margate Country Club. The response from the community was outstanding, with 44 donors presenting themselves and 38 successful donations recorded after screening.

The event carried a festive, welcoming atmosphere, true to the spirit of the South Coast. Donors were treated to boerewors rolls and cold drinks, creating a space that felt as much like a celebration as it did a service initiative. More than just a blood drive, the day became a reminder of the power of unity, generosity, and the life-saving impact of giving.

## Round Table Kokstad 35

Leading the charge, the men of Round Table Kokstad 35 hosted the Area's first blood drive on 9 September. Their efforts resulted in 33 successful donations, including two from Tablers themselves.

In classic Kokstad fashion, the town rallied behind the initiative with heart and determination. The event was a clear reflection of the Table's commitment to compassion and community, with every donation standing as a living expression of the creed: "Adopt, Adapt, Improve."

## Round Table Kloof 190

Also on Heritage Day, 24 September, Round Table Kloof 190 brought their unmistakable gees to their local blood drive. Despite challenging weather conditions, the drive yielded 15 successful donations, each one a powerful act of courage and generosity.

The collaboration with SANBS proved highly encouraging, with the local branch expressing a strong interest in future partnerships with the club. A special word of thanks goes to Beantree Café, who added a sweet touch to the day by treating every donor to a slice of cake, a small but meaningful gesture that reminded everyone that doing good can also be joyful.

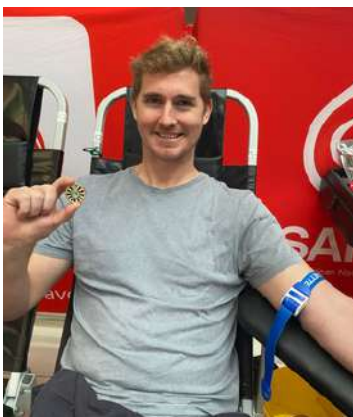
## Building a legacy of life

The NSCA blood drives stand as a powerful example of Round Table in action. Through commitment, teamwork, and genuine care for the communities we serve, these clubs have helped build a legacy that extends far beyond a single event.

As Round Table Southern Africa continues to strengthen its partnership with SANBS, the efforts of the Natal South Coast Area remind us that sometimes the greatest impact comes from the simplest act: rolling up a sleeve and giving life.



**Through partnership, purpose,  
and action, NSCA turned service  
into life-saving impact.**





# BROTHERHOOD IN ACTION AT ALES FOR TAILS!

A JOINT PROJECT BY ROUND TABLE WESTVILLE 189 AND KLOOF 190



Under the pulse of live music and the hum of brotherhood, Ales for Tails 2025 embodied the spirit of Iron and Ink — where Iron represents the hard work, resilience, and discipline of Tablers in service, and Ink reflects the compassion, creativity, and purpose that define healthy masculinity.

Hosted by Warren and his team, Ales for Tails drew a vibrant crowd and raised over R200,000 in support of local animal welfare initiatives. With electrifying performances by The Kickstands and Veranda Panda, guests enjoyed an unforgettable night, but the true rhythm of the event came from the Tablers who made it happen.

Round Table Westville 189 and Kloof 190 took charge of entry management, logistics, and crowd control, the unseen but essential 'iron' behind the evening's success. Every handshake, every coordinated effort, and every late-night shift showcased the discipline, teamwork, and quiet leadership that define Table service.

***"This event is about more than just great music and a good time, it's about giving back."***

— Warren, Organizer of Ales for Tails

Beyond the muscle and momentum lies the Ink, the empathy and humanity that drive the Round Table spirit. Funds raised from Ales for Tails will directly support local animal shelters and outreach programmes, ensuring food, care, and medical assistance reach those who need it most.

In a world where masculinity is often misdefined, Tablers continue to write a different story, one where strength is measured not by dominance, but by service, compassion, and connection.

***"To see the community come together and raise over R200,000 for animal charities is nothing short of inspiring."***

— Warren, Organizer of Ales for Tails

As the last notes echoed over Shongweni and the lights dimmed, what remained was more than a successful fundraiser, it was a reflection of what it means to be a modern Tabler. Through Iron and Ink, Westville 189 and Kloof 190 demonstrated that service and empathy are two sides of the same coin. The strength to act and the courage to care form the heart of Round Table's mission. "When Iron meets Ink, fellowship forges purpose, and Round Table stands stronger than ever."



## THE EDELWEISS ADVENTURE

By Wesley Wells

Earlier this year, my wife and I had the privilege of joining the Edelweiss Tour, the official pre-tour to the Austrian Round Table AGM, held in the picturesque town of Gmunden. It was a journey that perfectly blended fellowship, culture, and more than a little fun.

From the moment we touched down, we were welcomed with Austrian warmth. The tour took us through incredible stops, including a lively beer garden in Salzburg, a helicopter ride over Gmunden, and a visit to the legendary Red Bull Hangar-7, home to some of the most jaw-dropping aircraft and "toys" I've ever seen.

But as with all great Round Table adventures, the real highlight was the fellowship. We met Tablers from Iceland, the Netherlands, Belgium, Austria, and Germany, and proudly flew the flag as the only participants from Africa. The bonds formed over beer, wine, and generous plates of schnitzel were as genuine as they come.

Looking back, the Edelweiss Tour was more than just a prelude to the AGM, it was a reminder that Round Table truly gives you wings. New friendships, unforgettable experiences, and shared laughter are the real souvenirs we brought home.





# OPPIKUS MUSIEKFEEES: A RESOUNDING SUCCESS!

The Oppi Kus Musiekfees, held in Margate on 11 and 12 July 2025, was a tremendous success, meeting Margate 46 Round Table's expectations for turnout and delivering an "absolutely electric" atmosphere.

Attendance figures show strong support, with approximately 1,975 people (including vendors, staff, and patrons) enjoying Friday night's festivities, and an impressive 2,550 people joining the celebration on Saturday night. This year's event saw even better support than the previous year, a testament to its growing popularity. A quick-thinking move by Margate Round Table on Saturday morning saw a stretch tent erected, ensuring attendees could enjoy the festival without getting rained on.

The festival "went off without a hitch," largely due to the "fantastic companies, sponsors, and other service providers involved." A special thank you also goes out to all the tablers and 41ers of Margate Round Table 46, whose individual contributions were vital to organising and ensuring a successful event. The artists were also a major highlight, with their "tent-lifting performances" contributing to what organisers have hailed as their "best run event yet." A huge thank you has been extended to everyone who purchased tickets in support of the event.





# NORTHERN CAPE

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# NOORD-KAAP SE YSTER MANNE TRAP DIEP SPORE IN HUL GEMEENSAP

“Krag gesmee deur broederskap. Stories geskryf op vel en siel.”

Die Noord-Kaap Area het die afgelope kwartaal gewys wat dit beteken om yster en ink te wees, sterk, standvastig en doelgerig, maar ook vol stories wat blywend op die harte van mense geskryf word. Van koue nagte waar warmte en hoop gedeel is, tot dae vol kameraadskap en fondsinsameling; van trots by leierskap- en eretoekenings tot 'n gesamentlike viering van broederskap, ons Tafels het bewys dat die werk wat ons doen, nie net strukture bou nie, maar ook 'n nalatenskap skep.

By Hartz 186 Tafelronde is die WinterKnights-projek ondersteun deur 'n gemeenskap wat saamgestaan het soos yster. Elke skenking het hoop en warmte gebring in koue tye. Hul gasheerskap van die Noord-Kaap Area se AJV en die induksiedinee het verder die band van broederskap en leierskap gesmee, waar nuwe bestuurspanne hul plek ingeneem het. Erkenning is ook gegee aan JP van den Berg as Tafelaar van die Jaar en Hechter Sandenbergh as Area Tafelaar van die Jaar – 'n teken van die ink waarmee hul stories onuitwisbaar geskryf is.

Round Table Douglas 224 het met hul Skietdag en die Douglas Dryf gewys dat fondsinsameling ook pret, kameraadskap en gesinsbetrokkenheid kan wees. Hierdie projekte is nie net oor fondse nie, maar oor mense wat saamstaan en herinneringe bou – ink op die bladsye van die gemeenskap. Round Table Upington 79 het hulle eie sterk bydraes gemaak: van die skenking van 120 kg vleisbene aan Solly's Beacon of Hope Foundation NPC tot die uitdagende Bestuurs-Bibber projek, waar manne koue trotseer het om fondse in te samel – 'n ware toonbeeld van yster-vasberadenheid en ink-waardige stories van opoffering en hoop.

Die Noord-Kaap Area se stories van diens, broederskap en vasberadenheid toon dat “Iron & Ink” nie net 'n tema is nie, maar 'n werklikheid wat elke Tafelaar leef. Yster simboliseer die krag en deursettingsvermoë waarmee ons uitdagings aanpak; ink hou die verhaale vas wat ons nalatenskap word – verhaale van warmte, leierskap, kameraadskap en onwrikbare broederskap. Só bou ons nie net vandag nie, maar skryf ons ook 'n verhaal wat generasies lank sal voortleef.



## NOORD KAAP EN DIE GROOT IMPAK VAN DIE OFM BIG COVER UP



**THE BIG COVER UP**  
**THANK YOU**  
**CENTRAL SOUTH AFRICA!**

R295 000 worth of donations distributed by Round Tables in the Free State, Northern Cape, North West and Vaal!



NK Tafel het dit goed gedink om die OFM Big Cover Up in samewerking met Round Table SA se projek te herken as 'n tipe projek wat mense hoendervleis laat kry, en nee, nie agv die koue weer nie, maar eerder agv die groot impak wat dit gehad het regoor SA.

Die projek was 'n reuse sukses wat tot R295 000.00 ingesamel het en verdeel is tussen Tafels regoor SA om 'n impak in hulle omgewing te maak. Hierdie projek het Tafels se bereidwilligheid, entoesiasme en identiteit om te help in hulle gemeenskap deur en deur bewys en 'n goeie nalatenskap agter gelaat vir toekomstige tafelaars.

Prieska, Harstwater, Upington en Augrabies tafels het skenkings van kos, baba-items en verwarmers gemaak aan verskeie ouetehuse en kleuterskole in hulle omgewings.

Augrabies 273 kon 'n bietjie meer as R16 000.00 in hulle plaaslike omgewing skenk vir hulle organisasies wat hulle jaarliks ondersteun. Die Haas Das Kleuterskool asook Oranjerus Ouetehuis.

Ons weet dat hierdie skenkings 'n ongelooflike groot verskil kon maak in die kinders en ou-mense se lewens.

NK Tafel voel geëerd dat ons & ander Tafels kon saamstaan om hierdie projek saam met OFM 'n sukses te maak.



# SOUTH CAPE

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# AUTO EXTREMO 2025



## WHERE IRON MEETS INK IN THE SOUTHERN CAPE

The roar of engines and the scent of petrol once again filled the air at Santos Beach, Mossel Bay, as the Southern Cape hosted Auto Extremo 2025, a spectacular celebration of horsepower, heritage, and human connection.

For Round Table George 30, this event is more than a showcase of gleaming chrome and polished paint. It represents the continuation of a proud partnership with the Southern Cape Old Car Club, organisers of both the Outeniqua Old Car Show in George and now Auto Extremo in Mossel Bay. What began as a shared passion for classic cars and community service has evolved into a relationship forged in steel, and strengthened through action.

True to the Round Table spirit, George 30 rallied the support of Southern Cape Tables, with Tablers contributing in every way possible, behind the bar, under gazebos, or simply enjoying and energising the crowd.

This year saw undeniable growth. Compared to the inaugural event in 2024, Auto Extremo 2025 attracted a significantly larger audience, confirming the event's potential to become a permanent highlight on the Mossel Bay calendar.

While the "iron" of the day may have been the cars, machines of precision and beauty, the true strength lay in the "ink" of connection, friendship, and community spirit that binds Tablers together. Every handshake, shared laugh, and act of service wrote another line in the ongoing story of Round Table's impact across the Southern Cape.

Round Table George 30 is proud to be part of this growing tradition. With Auto Extremo gaining momentum, the Table looks forward to many more years of collaboration, camaraderie, and community, where iron meets ink, and passion becomes purpose.



## RAISING SPIRITS AND FUNDS AT THE BUFFALO RALLY



At the legendary Buffalo Rally in Hartenbos, Round Table 32 Mossel Bay was once again at the heart of the action, running the official bar and serving thousands of riders and locals. More than a weekend of fun, the event is the Table's biggest fundraiser, powering projects that support crèches, old-age homes, and families in need.

Despite lower-than-expected attendance, teamwork, creativity, and resilience turned the tide, resulting in an impressive R100,000 profit. Partners, pipeliners, and 41ers joined forces, proving that hard work and camaraderie make any challenge surmountable.

From the chaos and laughter behind the bar to the smiles of the community, this year's Buff left behind iron and ink, strength discovered in one another and stories that will be remembered for years.





# STNOFS

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## FORGING UNITY AND GROWTH IN 2025

SUBMITTED BY ADRIAN IHLENFELDT, STNOFS AREA CHAIRMAN

Every Area faces its own battles, and for STNOFS Area, the greatest challenge this year was rebuilding consistency and unity. Fluctuating attendance, uneven engagement, and moments where camaraderie seemed to slip could have stalled progress. Yet these hurdles became the sparks that drove the Area forward.

The Area leaned on its iron, the firm principles that define Tablers: fellowship is essential, structure brings strength, and service thrives when rooted in committed, connected members. These values anchored the Area and guided its response to challenges.

With this foundation, STNOFS Area began writing its ink, the story of renewal in 2025. Membership grew as new energy and ideas flowed in. Attendance at meetings and events improved, and camaraderie blossomed, turning gatherings into spaces filled with laughter, teamwork, and genuine fellowship. Structured and purposeful meetings laid the groundwork for sustainable momentum.

Looking back, the greatest challenge was never numbers or logistics, it was reigniting belief: belief in each other, in their principles, and in the Area itself. By facing struggles with unity and action rather than division or excuses, STNOFS Area has written a story of growth, brotherhood, and a promising future.



**This year has proven that challenges don't define the Area; how they are met does.**

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# WESTERN PROVINCE

## WESTERN PROVINCE'S IRON IN ACTION

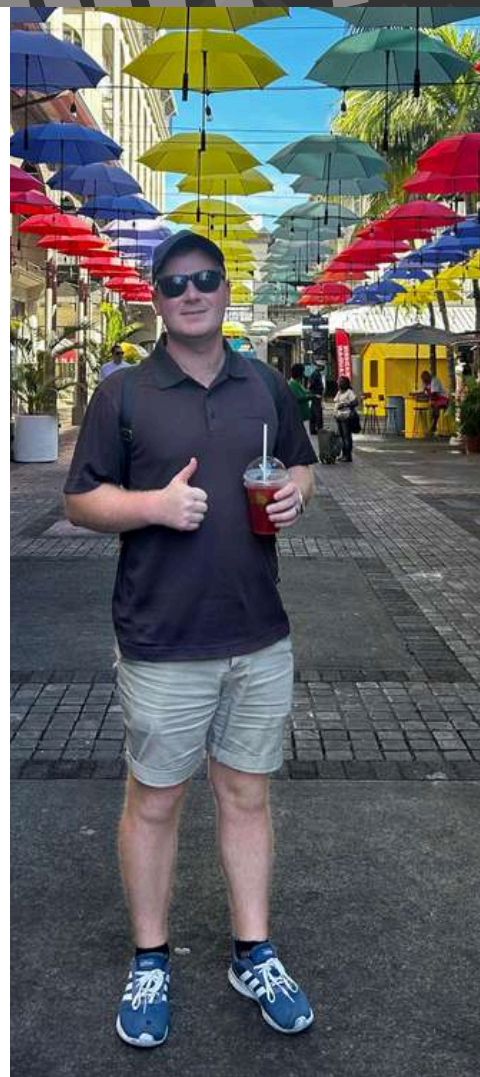
Western Province Area Chairman Nick Austin captures the spirit of Round Table with clarity and conviction when he speaks of “Iron from Every Corner.” For him, it represents an organisation that is resilient, adaptable, and strong enough to withstand the changing climates faced by leaders and men alike.

In Western Province, that strength is forged through diversity. From agricultural towns to bustling metropolitan centres, from small Tables with deep community roots to large city clubs brimming with new energy, the Area draws its distinctive shine from variety. It is this blend of people, places, and perspectives that makes Western Province social, connected, and dynamic. The past year has been defined by ambition and challenge. Under Nick’s leadership, the Area Council committed to bold initiatives, including a Bi Area Conference with Southern Cape, the revival of the Ladies Weekend, and navigating the difficult but necessary dismissal of a council member. Each tested resilience, values, and leadership in different ways.

For Nick, leadership is not about authority but responsibility. It is about caring for those in your charge, making tough decisions, and standing firm in shared values even when it is uncomfortable. Guided by a three year plan rooted in the Round Table motto “Adopt, Adapt, Improve,” Western Province has used structure as its backbone and fellowship as its fuel.

Today, the Area stands not just strong, but forged. Forged through challenge, fellowship, and family. Western Province’s iron is tough yet flexible, weathered yet shining, and proudly remains a vital component of the great machine that drives Round Table Southern Africa forward.

***“Forged through diversity, tested by challenge, and strengthened by fellowship, Western Province’s iron continues to shine as a vital force within Round Table Southern Africa.”***





COME

RUN

WITH

US

# MOVE'MBER CHALLENGE: GETTING MEN MOVING, ONE STEP AT A TIME

Every November, Round Table Southern Africa leads an international initiative that combines fitness, community, and the promotion of men's health. The annual November Challenge, driven by RTSA President Vos Botha, encourages participants to set ambitious personal goals: run or walk 100 km, cycle 300 km or swim 25 km, or take on all three disciplines. Participants have 30 days to complete their chosen challenge, creating a unique opportunity to focus on physical activity and mental well-being.



Men's health remains a pressing concern in South Africa. Cardiovascular disease is the leading cause of death among men, compounded by lifestyle factors such as inactivity, poor diet, and stress. Mental health is equally critical, with suicide rates among men significantly higher than among women. Challenges like Move'mber tackle both physical and mental well-being by encouraging healthy habits, providing structure, and fostering a supportive community. By promoting regular activity, accountability, and friendly competition, the initiative helps participants establish lasting routines, build resilience, and improve overall health outcomes.

While rooted in South Africa, the November Challenge attracts participants from across the world, building a sense of connection and camaraderie that transcends borders. Tablers are encouraged to push themselves, support one another, and celebrate every milestone, no matter the distance achieved.

The challenge is also about mental fortitude. Physical activity offers a constructive outlet for stress, grief, or life transitions, giving participants a space to focus on progress, track results, and find measurable personal growth.

Move'mber is more than just running, cycling, or walking; it is about fostering accountability, building habits, and cultivating a community focused on self-improvement. Each year, the challenge reminds participants that small, consistent actions lead to meaningful change, in fitness, mindset, and life.

By the end of November, every participant emerges stronger, more disciplined, and more connected to the global Round Table community. The initiative embodies the core Round Table values of fellowship, service, and personal development, proving that movement is not just exercise, but empowerment.

With each iteration, the November Challenge grows in scale and impact, inspiring men to take charge of their health and supporting the creation of healthy, resilient communities. Whether a seasoned athlete or a beginner, the challenge encourages everyone to get moving, one step, pedal, or stroke at a time.



**South Africa**  
Name: **Stefan Grobler** (RTSA Past President)  
Challenge Undertaken: **Cycling**  
Final Distance: **706 km / 28h36min**

**Story:**  
"The saying 'group gains are greater than solo pains' rang true during this challenge. Cycling over 700 km was tough, but the camaraderie and accountability from fellow Tablers made every kilometre worthwhile."



**South Africa**  
Name: **Brad Smart** (RT9)  
Challenge Undertaken: **Full 3-Discipline**  
Final Distance: **Run 105 km / Ride 301 km / Swim 11.5 km**

**Story:**  
"This challenge gave me purpose to get outside, build healthy habits, and push myself alongside friends and fellow Tablers. It was a rewarding way to improve both physical and mental fitness."



**South Africa**  
Name: **Tim van Oosten** (RT1)  
Challenge Undertaken: **Full 3-Discipline**  
Final Distance: **Swim 25,096 m / Walk/Run 105.45 km / Cycle 302.81 km**

**Story:**  
"The Move'mber Challenge offered a constructive space to process life's difficulties and rebuild mentally and physically. Completing all three disciplines mirrored the personal growth I achieved over the past months."



**Luxembourg**  
Name: **Georges Colbach** (RT5)  
Challenge Undertaken: **Cycle**  
Final Distance: Not specified

**Story:**  
"What started as a sportive goal became a source of community support and motivation. Seeing fellow Tablers push themselves inspired me to keep going, and the daily engagement made completing the challenge a truly rewarding experience."





**South Africa**  
 Name: **Marilise van der Merwe** (Kokstad 35)  
 Challenge Undertaken: Not specified  
 Final Distance: Not specified

**Story:**  
 "Move'mber gave me a clear goal and purpose, benefiting both my body and mind. It encouraged me to take action immediately, push my limits, and connect with others striving to improve themselves."



**South Africa**  
 Name: **Kyle Pienaar** (RT9)  
 Challenge Undertaken: **Full 3-Discipline**  
 Final Distance: **Cycle 360.77 km / Run 67.06 km / Swim 5.77 km**

**Story:**  
 "This challenge reminded me of the importance of keeping fit, not only as a tribute to lost loved ones but also to reduce risks of illness. It reinforced the link between physical health and long-term well-being."



**Estonia**  
 Name: **Krister Vellet** (RTI Secretary)  
 Challenge Undertaken: **Run / Walk**  
 Final Distance: **Run/Walk 106.5 km**

**Story:**  
 "Move'mber helped me restart training after a long pause. Setting goals and tracking my progress improved my mood, balance, and motivation, even amidst snow and cold weather."



**Philippines**  
 Name: **Erik Feustel** (IRO RT Philippines)  
 Challenge Undertaken: **Swim / Run**  
 Final Distance: **Swim 28.3 km / Run 17.8 km**

**Story:**  
 "Setting ambitious goals helped me integrate exercise into my life while raising awareness about mental health and lifestyle diseases like diabetes. Move'mber motivated me to adopt healthier habits, even if temporarily, which made a real difference."



**Botswana**  
 Name: **Otsile Kgotsile**  
 Challenge Undertaken: **Run / Cycle**  
 Final Distance: **Run 33.5 km / Cycle 63.9 km**

**Story:**  
 "As a beginner, Move'mber came at the perfect time to start running seriously. The encouragement from fellow Tablers helped me overcome excuses and set a goal for a full marathon by the end of 2026."



**South Africa**  
 Name: **Rikus Badenhorst** (PAST RTSA & RTI President)  
 Challenge Undertaken: **Walking**  
 Final Distance: **100.48 km**

**Story:**  
 "This challenge proves how a little motivation can push you to amazing results. Doubling my usual walking distance reminded me of the power of setting goals and staying committed."

**Malta**  
 Name: **Christopher Mintoff** (RT Malta, RTI)  
 Challenge Undertaken: Not specified  
 Final Distance: **107 km**

**Story:**  
 "Peer support drove me to commit and reach my target. Even on days my body felt exhausted, the community motivated me to push through and finish strong."

**Zimbabwe**  
 Name: **Nevison Junior Chomundondo** (Masvingo RT11)  
 Challenge Undertaken: Not specified  
 Final Distance: Not specified

**Story:**  
 "This challenge was a journey of self-discovery and growth. It encouraged reflection on my values and passions, and being part of the Move'mber community strengthened my commitment to better health and well-being."

**South Africa**  
 Name: **Jacques Du Preez**  
 Challenge Undertaken: **Walk / Run**  
 Final Distance: **Walk 100.7 km / Run 117.9 km**

**Story:**  
 "Having a clear purpose and accountability made it easier to stay committed. Completing these distances motivated me to continue pursuing fitness goals beyond the challenge."

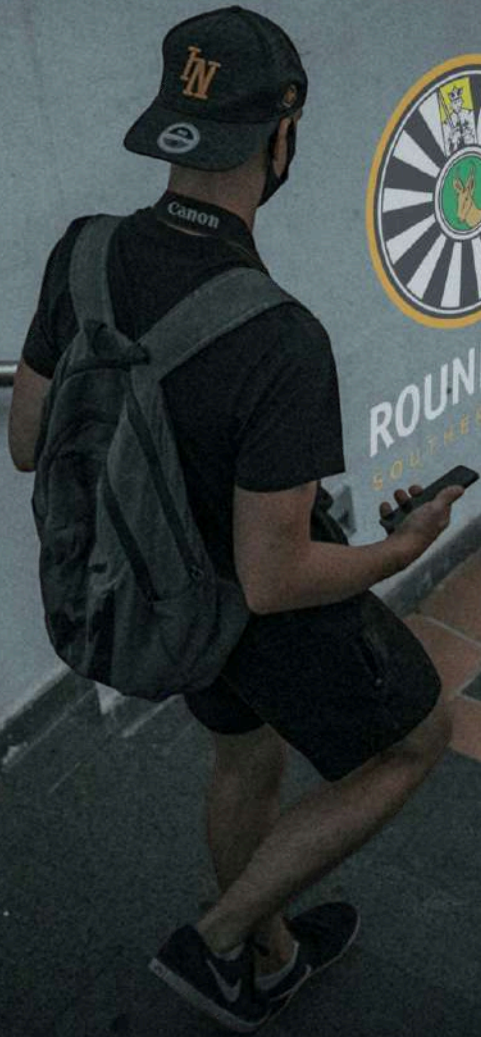




NOT JUST FRIENDS,  
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