

# ROBUST

MARCH 2022 MURRAY & ROBERTS GROUP MAGAZINE



## CREATING AND SUSTAINING VALUE OVER THE LONG TERM

THE GROUP'S PURPOSE IS TO SUPPORT THE ADVANCEMENT OF SUSTAINABLE HUMAN DEVELOPMENT.

## THE ROBUST EXCHANGE

GREG MILLER AND ERIC SMITH SHARE THEIR CAREER HIGHLIGHTS AND CHALLENGES.

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# FEATURE

## CREATING AND SUSTAINING VALUE OVER THE LONG TERM



The Group's Purpose is to support the advancement of sustainable human development. It speaks to the relevance of what we do as an organisation, also to how we do it.

But what does this really mean and what is it that we wish to achieve as an organisation? Murray & Roberts exists to engineer and construct infrastructure that improves the lives of people, way beyond the duration of the project. Our purpose is thus much more than only generating profits for shareholders – although it is very important that we do deliver on all our financial commitments.

In today's interconnected and ever-changing global society, it is essential that we create value for all our stakeholders, to enable us to also deliver long-term value for our shareholders. Companies must therefore continually adapt to evolving stakeholder expectations and unless they do so, they will ultimately be replaced by competitors.



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# FEATURE

FROM PAGE 3



Current expectations from stakeholders around the world, include a requirement for organisations to significantly improve their environmental, socioeconomic and governance (“ESG”) outcomes, which are important as they are being factored into capital allocation or investment decisions by financial institutions and investors. Murray & Roberts’ market focus covers those market sectors where infrastructure is established, aimed at growing economies and to address severe socioeconomic imbalances. Investment in these sectors follows conscious capital investment decisions and improved ESG outcomes from organisations active in these sectors are therefore important to attract the necessary capital from financial institutions and investors.

Investment in infrastructure is a proven way to stimulate economic development that can multiply socioeconomic and environmental value throughout economies and across communities. COVID-19 has devastated lives and economies around the world and rarely before has the world been in greater need of infrastructure-led growth and sustainable human development than now. It is expected that growing demand for infrastructure will also provide growing demand for Murray & Roberts services.

Our approach to sustainable human development and value creation is embedded in our values-led culture of *Engineered Excellence*. We design and deliver projects that are financially viable and create value for the Group and all its stakeholders. The quality

and longevity of our projects do have a lasting and positive impact on the wellbeing of individuals, communities and on society.

The projects that we build, or the infrastructure assets that we create, have life expectancies of 20, 30 or even 50 years, or longer. We are essentially engineering and constructing monuments which are there for the benefit of human development for decades to come, whether it is a mine that we build that will provide employment for communities for the next 30 years, or whether it is a renewable energy power plant that will provide electricity to the economy and society for many years. These monuments that we build are there to support the advancement of sustainable human development. This is our Purpose.

**We take a long-term approach – we create and sustain value over the long term.**

We are focused on ensuring the sustainability of Murray & Roberts. If we stay true to our company's Purpose, while adapting to this new world around us, we will be able to deliver lasting returns for all our stakeholders.

It is gratifying to reflect on how well we have strategically prepared the Group for this dynamic world we operate in. We won't be led – we choose to lead. **R**



# BUSINESS PLATFORMS



## CLOUGH ACQUIRES 100% OWNERSHIP OF JJ WHITE INCORPORATED

Clough has acquired 100% ownership of JJ White Incorporated (“JJ White”), a general construction contractor based in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, United States.

JJ White, founded in 1920, is a private, fourth-generation multi-trade engineering and contracting business.

JJ White specialises in industrial maintenance and related construction services that cover a full range of mechanical and electrical disciplines.

Henry Laas, Murray & Roberts Group Chief Executive, comments, “The acquisition is part of the Group’s strategy to diversify and expand the service offering of its Energy, Resources & Infrastructure business platform in North America, similar to its recent market sector diversification in the Asia-Pacific region, which has seen significant order book growth over the past three years.

This investment presents strong growth potential and opportunity for market share expansion and is expected to provide good returns.”

Peter Bennett, Energy, Resources & Infrastructure business platform CEO, comments, “JJ White is a well-known industry contractor with an impressive and proven track record. The acquisition builds an immediate, robust entry into new territories and new markets and Clough will leverage JJ White’s existing customer base to expand its services and footprint across the USA.”

“Murray & Roberts is today a purpose-built Group, ready to capitalise on improved prospects in our two international business platforms. The Group’s international market sectors are expected to continue to benefit from dedicated and extensive stimulus earmarked for a post-pandemic infrastructure-led economic recovery,” concludes Henry. **R**

# BUSINESS PLATFORMS



## DELIVERING INTELLIGENT SUSTAINABLE MANUFACTURING SOLUTIONS

Booth Welsh and XpertRule have announced a partnership that will help organisations reduce their carbon footprint and tackle the toughest climate change problems through intelligent manufacturing.

XpertFactory software incorporates multiple artificial intelligence capabilities to digitally capture human expertise and apply machine learning to automate and improve the manufacturing process.

The software transforms plant manufacturing by making it easy to digitally capture, streamline and audit decision-making processes leading to greater overall efficiencies and effectiveness. It can also proactively detect and respond to events, which improves the quality and yield of manufacturing, while leading to better overall equipment effectiveness.

Hugh Welsh, Booth Welsh Engineering Director comments, "This is a new exciting partnership, which aligns with Environment 4.0, a Booth Welsh initiative that showcases how emerging technology can deliver tangible results in efficiency, performance, mitigation and waste reduction, while also delivering a positive impact on profitability."

Both companies see Environment 4.0 as a catalyst in the transition to more sustainable business operations. "Collaborating with technology partners is key for us to embrace the next generation of manufacturing automation capabilities, making it possible to enhance production efficiencies and Net Zero targets in a practical way," concludes Hugh. **R**

## SAFETY FIRST

### AT LOS GATOS, MEXICO

The Cerro Los Gatos Mine is a silver-lead-zinc underground mine, located approximately 120kms south of Chihuahua, Mexico. The mine is operated by Minera Plata Real, a joint venture between Gatos Silver Inc. and Dowa Metals & Mining Co.

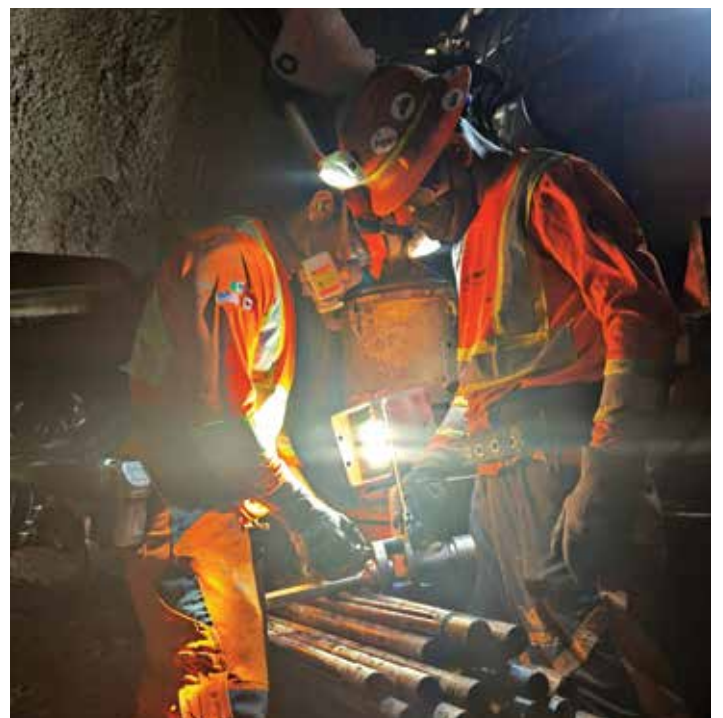
Cementation, in a joint venture with a local contractor, began the initial portal and main drift development in 2017 and was later awarded further work to develop the underground infrastructure.

The challenge for Cementation was to develop a local team of miners and engineers who subscribed to its safety culture and systems.

There were many initial challenges to overcome, including a mentality of "miners mining and bosses bossing" that had to be addressed and overcome before building an interdependent safety culture where safety became the primary measurable deliverable.

This was achieved with a positive approach that coached and encouraged employees to make individual commitments to safety and that rewarded safe work. Mentoring and coaching ensured the safety leadership teams embodied a proactive safety culture, displaying visible felt leadership and creating momentum towards Zero Harm. These actions resulted in a total reportable incident frequency rate of 0,61 in 2021, much improved from 1,75 in 2019.

After four years, Cementation Mining Mexico is currently bidding on additional projects to build on its successes at the Los Gatos project. **R**





# BUSINESS PLATFORMS

## DELIVERING EXCELLENCE IN RENEWABLE ENERGY ENGINEERING

Wade Walker Solar provides affordable, custom-designed rooftop solar and battery storage solutions. Its mission is to provide integrated and sustainable energy solutions to the residential, commercial and industrial sectors.

As part of the Murray & Roberts Power, Industrial & Water platform, Wade Walker Solar is aligned to the global imperative to transition to a more sustainable environment by enabling green energy solutions for its clients.

CCG South Africa, part of the global Cable Gland company, recently entrusted Wade Walker Solar in delivering a roof-mounted solar panel solution. The bespoke 575kW peak power grid-tie system was designed to optimise CCG's roof space to achieve the maximum amount of photovoltaic ("PV") energy, limiting municipal grid load and realising significant cost savings.

Wade Walker Solar is also proud to be contributing to Impala Rustenburg's commitment to environmental sustainability. Impala's Siesta property was transitioned to a hybrid storage PV solution by installing a 251kW system. PV power is generated during the day while excess energy is stored in the battery backup for use during power outages. The solar panels also serve as carports.

In an ongoing project for Murray & Roberts Cementation, the Wade Walker Solar team is developing a system that reflects the excellence of modern renewable-energy engineering. Says Pieter van der Westhuizen, Operations Manager at Wade Walker Solar, "We are excited to be implementing the best possible PV technology and cutting-edge hybrid inverter systems and look forward to leading the way in project excellence for our clients." **R**



# BUSINESS PLATFORMS



## MURRAY & ROBERTS TRAINING ACADEMY GOES GREEN WITH ITS OWN SOLAR FARM

Taking forward its sustainability agenda while safeguarding operational performance, Murray & Roberts Cementation is now powering its training academy near Carletonville, South Africa, using solar energy.

The move puts the training and engineering facility on a stable and reliable energy platform, according to Murray & Roberts Cementation Engineering Services Executive, Hercilus Harmse. It is also in line with the Company's strategic aim of reducing its carbon footprint.

The solution is a hybrid system using solar energy for most of the site's requirements, with lithium batteries providing continuous electricity in the case of outages. The existing backup diesel generating system adds another level of redundancy.

The photovoltaic ("PV") installation comprises almost 1 400 solar panels and will generate 726kW of power for the site. Securely situated adjacent to the training academy's offices, training rooms, workshops and other infrastructure, the solar farm comprises about a hectare of north-facing, ground-mounted PV panels at an efficient 12-degree angle. These also feed into 800kWh of battery capacity, which provide an uninterrupted flow to the range of sophisticated electrical and electronic equipment on site.

"As our operational technology at the academy advances, there is steadily more risk posed by unplanned outages," Harmse notes. "Our training equipment today, for instance, includes sensitive and costly computerised tools such as simulators, which ideally require constant and controlled energy supply."

Prior to starting, the project required extensive data collection and analysis to identify electricity usage patterns and peaks – leading to the most effective strategy. Harmse says the renewable power project forms part of a broader sustainability strategy at the academy, which includes environmental initiatives related to water, recycling and the reduced use of hydrocarbons in energy generation.

"This bold step into a renewable future puts us on a firm footing where clients can feel confident about our commitment to sustainability and our ability to deliver," he says. **R**



## OPTIPOWER PROJECTS CONNECTS MEERKAT EXTENSION PROJECT

The MeerKAT radio telescope, located in the Northern Cape, South Africa, is part of an international project that listens to radio emissions from outer space, translating the data into visible images. The project has discovered several galaxies within our solar system.

OptiPower Projects is working on the MeerKAT extension project, increasing the number of radio dishes from 64 to 84, enabling an increase in sensitivity, spatial resolution and image quality. Its scope of work includes installing power and fibre communication reticulation.

Says Hilton Swart, senior Project Manager for OptiPower Projects, "MeerKAT is located in a radio silent zone of the Karoo, which means there are no cellphones, laptops or other Bluetooth devices allowed on site as they emit interference that could obstruct a potential discovery."

OptiPower Projects is working alongside Concor, which is constructing the roads and foundation platforms for the new dishes in the Array.

Concludes Hilton, "This is a world-class project and its particular challenges mean that we are always learning and innovating." **R**



# BUSINESS PLATFORMS

## CLOUGH

### AWARDED CONTRACT TO DELIVER STEPHENSON AVENUE PROJECT



Clough – in alliance with Acciona, WSP and Main Roads Western Australia – has been awarded the contract to deliver phase two of the Stephenson Avenue extension project, north of Perth CBD in Western Australia, valued at approximately AU\$191 million.

The scope of works involves the extension of Stephenson Avenue to Cedric Street, including a new Mitchell Freeway Interchange and upgrades to the Stirling Bus Interchange. The project will connect key activity hubs, including Westfield Innaloo Shopping Centre and the Osborne Park industrial area.

Peter Bennett, Energy, Resources & Infrastructure platform CEO says, “Clough’s relationship with Main Roads goes back over 60 years and I’m pleased to see with this award that we continue to work together to deliver a safe and efficient key transport infrastructure that connects, builds and grows our city.”

John Galvin, Clough Executive Vice President Australia and Asia Pacific, said: “This project will improve access to the Stirling City Centre, support future light rail in the area and reduce congestion. It will also bring opportunities to local talent and businesses.”

The project will commence towards end of 2021 and will run for the next two years. **R**



## E2O ASSET SERVICES

### AWARDED SHUTDOWN CONTRACT IN PNG

e2o Asset Services, has been awarded a shutdown scope at Newcrest’s Lihir Gold project on Lihir Island, 900 kms from Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea (“PNG”).

The scope awarded includes support shutdown maintenance activities and the asset services team will work with Newcrest to prepare, plan, schedule, execute, close out and improve the site’s Grinding and Flotation Area’s major planned shutdowns.

The shutdown execution works include planned maintenance, corrective and project improvement.

The site’s Grinding and Flotation Area’s major planned shutdowns are completed every March and September and form part of the site’s larger Smart Shutdown schedule. Work will commence immediately with the first shutdown planned for March 2022.

Peter Bennett, Energy, Resources & Infrastructure platform CEO, said: “Clough has over 40 years of experience delivering projects in PNG and this contract will continue to bring opportunities to local talent, businesses and the community at large.”

Brent Maas, Clough Vice President Services for Queensland and PNG, said: “Our history in PNG is extensive and this award ensures we continue to make a positive impact in the PNG community while working with Newcrest to maximise the value of its assets.”

Newcrest creates economic value for PNG and local communities including direct revenues from operations, investments in public infrastructure and services, support of local suppliers, and a range of indirect economic benefits. Approximately 4 500 people are employed at Lihir, which has a combination of residential and fly-in-fly-out personnel. Around 90 per cent of employees are Papua New Guineans.

e2o is a global asset services company recognised for delivering valuable and sustainable solutions to clients in the infrastructure, energy and resources industries. The e2o business comprises three platforms: operations and maintenance, brownfields EPC and workforce management solutions. e2o is a wholly owned subsidiary of Clough. **R**

# THE ROBUST EXCHANGE

The Mining platform has seen two of its stalwart leaders retire and Robust Magazine becomes acquainted with the new incumbents. Greg Miller is the new managing director at RUC Cementation Mining and Eric Smith takes the helm at Cementation USA.



## GREG MILLER

MANAGING DIRECTOR, RUC CEMENTATION MINING

### WHERE DID YOU GROW UP?

I grew up in Wycheproof, a small town in Victoria located 277kms north-west of Melbourne.

### WHAT WAS YOUR FIRST JOB?

I have had plenty of non-paying jobs on farms and in the family business but my first paying job was building steel grain silos.

### WHAT WAS YOUR CAREER JOURNEY TO WHERE YOU ARE NOW?

I graduated from the University of Ballarat in 1994, after which I worked as a graduate at several mines for National Mine Management in Kalgoorlie, Western Australia. National Mine Management was bought by Macmahon in 1996 and I continued my career with them, progressing from a graduate to site engineer, project manager and ultimately executive general manager with a tenure of 21 years of service. In 2016, I moved into consulting and in 2018 joined RUC as general manager.

### WHAT CAREER MILESTONES ARE YOU MOST PROUD OF HAVING ACHIEVED?

The few that stand out include a project under my leadership that started with 40 employees and one jumbo and grew successfully to 180 employees and seven jumbos. The INSEAD advanced management programme which I completed in France was also a highlight. I am also proud of my time at National Mine Management and Macmahon and progressing from a graduate to executive general manager and of course my appointment as managing director of RUC.

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

The immediate challenges are COVID-19 and the ever-changing restrictions and mandates that impact our supply chains and the movement of employees on our projects. The pandemic has also exacerbated the shortage of skilled employees and we are challenged to upskill people who are new to the mining industry. I am also challenged to fulfil the role of managing director in my own shoes instead of walking in my predecessor's shoes.

### WHAT EXCITES YOU ABOUT THE FUTURE IN YOUR INDUSTRY?

Technology is rapidly evolving and over the next 10 years I am excited to see what can and will be adapted to the mining industry.

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

- Make money and don't hurt anyone.
- Be decisive, and if it's the wrong decision fix it quickly.
- Roughly right is better than exactly wrong.

### WHAT ARE SOME OF YOUR INTERESTS OUTSIDE OF THE OFFICE?

I enjoy spending time with my wife and four children. Currently, I am working on restoring a 1973 Rambler Matador and enjoy tinkering with similar projects in the shed. Occasionally I hit the odd tennis and golf ball and spend time with mates playing darts and poker.

### WHAT WOULD PEOPLE BE SURPRISED TO KNOW ABOUT YOU?

The only reason I went to university and became a mining engineer is because in years 11 and 12 of school I was unable to get an apprenticeship as a plasterer, which at the time was my dream job! Sounds crazy now. **R**





**ERIC SMITH**  
PRESIDENT, CEMENTATION AMERICAS

### WHERE DID YOU GROW UP?

My father was involved in oil and gas exploration. As a result, my family moved around a lot. I spent my childhood in the United States between Colorado, Montana and Texas. While all of the moving was a bit disruptive growing up, it did prepare me for my career in the mining industry, where I have lived in many different places, and have learned to appreciate the local cultures and find enjoyment wherever I lived.

### WHAT WAS YOUR FIRST JOB?

My first job in the mining industry was as a surveyor for an underground longwall coal mine as part of a CO-OP programme with my university. It was quite a learning experience. The mine set world records for production, but at the same time, averaged multiple lost-time injuries every month due to poor safety culture and the sole focus on production. I was struck by the fact that the only time safety was discussed was in the safety meeting and when everyone went underground it was ignored and production was the only thing discussed with the crews. It was a great lesson for me to see how management sets expectations (whether intentionally or unintentionally) more by what conversations they have in the workplace than what is discussed in meetings.

### WHAT WAS YOUR CAREER JOURNEY TO WHERE YOU ARE NOW?

When I graduated from university, the underground mining industry was very slow, so I ended up working for a large US-based heavy civil contractor that did public works underground projects. It was a great learning experience to see the rigour that is required to successfully tender and execute high-risk public works contracts. My first mining industry job after university was working for an underground palladium/platinum mine in Montana, where I worked both in project and mine operations management. I then went to work for Freeport McMoRan in Indonesia when they were in the process of building three new underground mines. While underground

mining projects have similar challenges throughout the world, the challenge of effectively working with multicultural teams was something that was a valuable learning experience that I have been able to apply ever since. After four years in Indonesia, I returned to North America to manage a twin ground freeze shaft sinking project with another contractor in the Canadian potash industry. In 2012, I made the move to Cementation, where I have worked ever since.

### WHAT CAREER MILESTONES ARE YOU MOST PROUD OF HAVING ACHIEVED?

I am thankful for all of the career opportunities that I have had prior to joining Cementation. However, in order to learn other aspects of the industry and to advance my career, I eventually had to change companies. After joining Cementation, I was privileged to be part of a company that not only had a great culture, but provided opportunities for me to be a part of some very challenging projects and further my knowledge. I am very proud of the accomplishments of the Cementation teams that I have been a part of, including:

- Significantly improving our safety performance and the way we manage risk, with multiple projects and business units achieving zero lost-time injuries for years at a time.
- Executing projects while partnering with local and indigenous stakeholders.
- Completing some of the most technically challenging shaft projects in North America.
- Achieving a highly skilled and efficient mechanised lateral development methodology that we have utilised to become the contractor of choice for very discerning clients.

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

While safety in the mining industry has dramatically improved since my early career working in the coal mines, we have seen a plateau in our industry's ability to further reduce injuries and fatalities. There are a lot of reasons for this, but ultimately there is still a lot of reliance on administrative controls and more work is required to provide better protection of our employees

from hazardous energy. A related challenge is the relatively slow pace of technological advancement of our industry, which is also being compounded by a high rate of retiring experienced professionals with less people entering the industry.

### WHAT EXCITES YOU ABOUT THE FUTURE IN YOUR INDUSTRY?

With challenges come opportunities! I am very excited to see some of the innovations that have come out of not only Cementation Americas, but also some of our partner companies within the Murray & Roberts mining platform, such as the remote operated bogging technology that RUC and Insig have been developing. As the mining platform grows, we will have the ability to combine our innovation efforts to provide the best technological solutions to keep our employees safe and to provide the best service for our clients.

### WHAT IS THE BEST PIECE OF CAREER ADVICE YOU HAVE RECEIVED?

"Take your job seriously, but never take yourself too seriously" was sage advice that I received early on from one of my mentors. This advice has served me well, especially since mostly everything we do in our industry is a result of teamwork.

### WHAT ARE SOME OF YOUR INTERESTS OUTSIDE OF THE OFFICE?

We are fortunate to live in one of the most beautiful areas in the western United States, with large tracts of public land and some of the most stunning high desert scenery in the world. My wife and I try to get out into the desert regularly to camp, hunt, explore and enjoy the beauty of the desert. We also raise Italian mastiffs (Cane Corso), which are extremely spirited dogs, so they keep us very busy and active.

### WHAT WOULD PEOPLE BE SURPRISED TO KNOW ABOUT YOU?

I currently hold the rank of purple belt in the martial art of Brazilian Jiu Jitsu. I started training over six years ago and have found it to be a great way to not only stay physically fit, but to also manage stress and overall mental health. In the evenings after work, I will most likely be found training in the dojo. **R**

# NEWS

## OLYMPIC SUCCESS

### FOR JUMPING KIDS

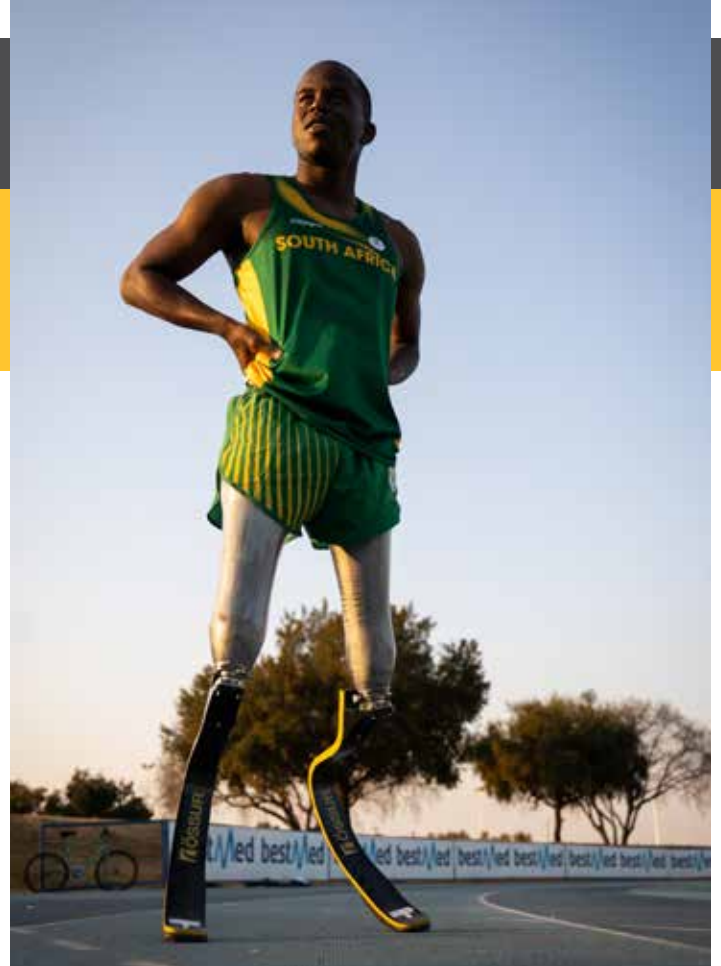
Over the past 39 years, Murray & Roberts has celebrated development projects transforming the lives of young people from at-risk communities through sport at the annual Jack Cheetham and Letsema Awards.

Jumping Kids, winners of the 2019 Letsema Award, provides amputees and children with limb mobility anomalies or deficiencies with the tools to be successful contributing members of society through access to prosthetic and mobility devices, education and training and sporting opportunities and coaching.

We are incredibly proud of three athletes from Jumping Kids who inspired us with their achievements at the 2020 Tokyo Paralympic Games.

Puseletso Mabote competed at his first major championships and set a new African record of 12,66 seconds in the men's T63 100m event, coming seventh overall.

Tebogo Mofokeng set an African record and took fourth place in the men's 400m T62 with a time of 50,09 seconds. This was his Paralympic debut and competing at the 2020 Tokyo Paralympics has been one of his biggest dreams.



NTANDO MAHLANGU

Ntando Mahlangu took two gold medals with an impressive and nail-biting performance. Ntando jumped 7,17m at the men's long jump T63 to set a new world record and ran a 23,59 men's 200m T61.

Said Ntando after the Games, "I do not compete for myself. I compete for the people. It is bigger than Ntando Mahlangu. It is about creating a legacy for more athletes with physical challenges to get the opportunity to pursue sport at this level. I hope that my performance in Tokyo inspired all who watched and created better understanding about disability as a whole."

The Jack Cheetham and Letsema Awards have been suspended since 2019 due to the COVID-19 pandemic but we are hopeful they will resume soon. **R**



PUSELETSO MABOTE



TEBOGO MOFOKENG



# NEWS



## TOUCH LIFE CENTRE GRADUATION

The Touch Life Centre is an early childhood development centre located in Troyeville, a disadvantaged community on the edge of Johannesburg's city centre.

The centre caters for 60 children between the ages of two and six from the local community and provides them with a structured educational programme and meals.

By charging a nominal fee of R200, the centre offers an early childhood development education that their families could not otherwise afford. Many of the mothers are single parents and knowing that their children are being cared for during the day, are able to go out and try to find work.

At the end of each year, the centre hosts a graduation ceremony for the children who have completed their Grade R. This is a highlight for everyone and gives the children an opportunity to showcase for their parents what they have learned during the year. The children receive their diplomas and are handed a backpack containing stationery for their following year in primary school, which is donated by Murray & Roberts.

Says Tony Parker, Managing Director, Touch Life Centre, "We had a full turnout of parents for our graduation. The children came up to receive their certificates and their parents gave excited cheers, which grew louder when we handed out their photos, certificates and backpacks." **R**

## SAIL AFRICA YOUTH DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION WINS SUSTAINABILITY AWARD



Sail Africa Youth Development Foundation was established in 2007 and its objective is to expose youth to the sport of sailing and to careers in the nautical sciences and maritime industry. Several youngsters from the foundation have gone on to represent South Africa in world events and its focus on girls has seen an increased number of girls participating in the development programme, racing and claiming podium places. The programme also develops life skills, contributes to poverty alleviation, education and environmental awareness. The programme was awarded first place at the 2016 Jack Cheetham Awards.

The World Sailing 11<sup>th</sup> Hour Racing Sustainability Award celebrates the effective execution or ongoing delivery of high-impact sustainability initiatives that are aligned with the World Sailing Sustainability Agenda 2030. Entries are accepted from around the world with four finalists selected before going to a world vote. Sail Africa Youth Development Foundation received 41% of the public vote, an overwhelming win for the 2021 awards.

Quanhai Li, World Sailing President, says: "Sail Africa Youth Development Foundation is a life-changing project, ensuring under-represented communities have the opportunity to take part in the sport."

Concludes Jackie Barnard, Sail Africa Youth Development Foundation Director, "We owe a debt of gratitude to our funders and partners and are grateful for the support shown to the programme, which will continue to change the lives of our sailors." **R**

# NEWS



## MAKING MENTAL HEALTH A PRIORITY

The COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted the critical role of good mental health. Depression is one of the leading causes of disability and people with severe mental health conditions are at risk of dying prematurely due to preventable physical conditions. While many mental health conditions can be avoided, they are also effectively treated with increased awareness of causes, symptoms and preventative measures.

The Murray & Roberts Group has partnered with a number of organisations to make mental health a priority among its employees.

Clough works with MATES in Construction and RUC Mining with MATES in Mining. MATES in Construction was established in 2008 in response to findings that suicide rates in the Australian construction and mining sectors were higher than the average for Australian men, with rates among young men in the industry up to 2.4 times higher. The MATES programme is based on the simple idea that mental health is everyone's business and if the sector is

to improve on the mental health of its employees then it cannot be left only to health professionals, everyone must play their part. MATES achieves its purpose through a number of education and awareness programmes, which Clough and RUC Cementation Mining implement and promote across their sites.

In South Africa, employees have access to a 24-hour medical and counselling contact centre with trained professionals providing a confidential and free service to employees and their families.

Says Thokozani Mdluli, Murray & Roberts Group Risk and Health, Safety and Environment Director, "Creating awareness of mental health and removing the stigma that often surrounds it is a priority for the Group, especially in light of the additional stressors that the pandemic has placed on us."

For confidential advice and support, Murray & Roberts South African employees can contact the Philisa Care contact centre on 0800 212 772, 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. **R**



# NEWS

## IMPROVING ON ENGINEERED EXCELLENCE!



The Murray & Roberts Running Club has refined it even more over the past few months: "Fast, victorious *Engineered Excellence*." The Running Club's results confirms this statement.

At the Nedbank Runified 50km race in the Eastern Cape in May last year, Charne Bosman stormed to a new 50km world's best time for the distance in a superfast three hours 24 minutes and four seconds for the 45 to 49 age group. The 2016 Comrades Marathon champion has won virtually every race that she has competed in for the last 12 months and started off her year with yet another comfortable victory in the 2022 Dischem race on our own 'doorstep' in Bedfordview. In the men's race, Olympian Sibusiso Nzima was a close second and Philani Buthelezi, the defending champion, third.

We have produced more than a hundred wins in 2021, but very few were as sweet or rewarding as the diminutive, fast KwaZulu-Natal runner, Tayla Kavanagh. At the national 10km championships in Durban, Kavanagh stormed to yet another personal best and her first senior national title in 32 minutes and 10 seconds. Perennial top placer Kesa Molotsane also kept the flag flying high in third place, just 41 seconds further back.

The 20-year-old clocked the third fastest time ever by a South African in a women's only race and this barn-storming run catapulted her up into fourth on the South African all-time list with lofty company, Olympians Elana Meyer, Colleen de Reuck and Ivette van Zyl, ahead of her.

The 2021 Spar Women's Race 10km Challenge series was a complete performance from the black and yellow. The Club had no less than seven athletes out of the top 25 in the final Grand Prix standings over all six races in the series. That was topped by three category wins and the coveted Club Points Grand Prix Challenge victory! In the grand master category (the over 60s) Judy Bird racked up a new national mark for the age group (twice) breaking the 17-year-old mark when she stopped the clocks in 40:09 in the Mother City and won all six races in a row!

Free Stater, Kesa Molotsane won a whopping R90 000 for her runners-up spot in the Grand Prix, after a superbly consistent showing taking five Top 5 places, finishing on 129 points. That also meant that we paid out top-dollar incentives to all our top performers.

The Murray & Roberts Running Club and the Vorentoe Running Academy produced a bag full of fine wins, podium places and dominant displays right from when racing continued again after the enforced COVID-19 layoff. The Vorentoe squad produced more than 20 podiums and many victories in the Gauteng junior athletic championships on the track. Later in the year, there were more than a half-a-dozen National Championship wins, not to mention their superb running in the cross-country races that they contested, which also resulted in more than 30 victories.



Our fastest marathoner in 2021, Philani Buthelezi (2:13), leads the men's challenge and in the 2021 Sanlam Cape Town marathon our statistics were impressive. No less than 10 of our athletes ran under two hours and 30 minutes, spearheaded home by David Manja's 2:15 for 19th place. Thulani Magagula was the second veteran (over-40) home in 2:26. The magical sub-three-hour mark was bettered by 37 runners in the black and yellow, most notably our chairman, Ed Jardim, who shattered his personal best by more than 35 minutes to record his first finish under the mark in 2:54! It seems if you want to become fast, manage an elite club and then train with them.

In Cape Town there were 11 of our women under the three-hour mark and the black and yellow had a remarkable seven women out of the top 10 veterans category, led home by Simone Verster who ran a sparkling 2:52.

Extreme marathoner, Richards Bay's Nontu Mghabi completed the demanding 250km Marathon Des Sables in 45 hours, making her one of very few runners on the planet who has knocked off this gruelling race, as well as completing seven marathons on seven continents. She is also one of only a handful of South Africans who have completed this monster six-day race.

It had been a superb year and we will continue to refine fast, victorious, *Engineered Excellence*. **R**



## Repositioned for the future

Murray & Roberts is a **multinational specialist engineering and contracting group** that delivers its expertise and capabilities in the resources, industrial, energy, water and specialised infrastructure sectors. The Group's **Purpose** is to **enable projects that support the advancement of sustainable human development**. We are a group of companies aligned to the same **Purpose** and **Vision** and guided by the same set of **Values**.

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