THE DIRECTOR’S CHAIR

Stephen Smith wins prestigious Bidvest Achiever of the Year award

Congratulations to Stephen Smith, Warehouse Director, BPL, who recently won the Bidvest Achiever of the Year award.

The Bidvest annual awards ceremony recognises the achievements of its employees. Each Division within Bidvest nominates a number of employees from which one is selected to win the Achiever of the Year award within that Division.

This year the CEO of Bidvest Freight nominated three employees, one from SACD, one from Bidvest Tank Terminals and Stephen Smith from BPL. Varying criteria is used for selecting a winner. Stephen was chosen as the winner of the Achiever of the Year award in Bidvest Freight mainly due to the exceptional financial growth achieved by the Warehouse Division in the past financial year.

Stephen attributed his success to his senior management team and the dedication of all the employees in the Warehouse Division. He also has high praise for the support received from the support service departments within BPL.

Stephen’s career spans some 27 years. After graduating he started his career as a Human Resources practitioner. His work life has taken him across many different industries, including mining, automotive, foam, bulk liquid storage, textiles and finally logistics. “I have now found my passion in Operations,” he says.

Stephen is very grateful for the support he receives from Craig Mountjoy and the entire BPL team and as such he dedicates his award to BPL.

Well done Stephen and all at BPL on this prestigious achievement.

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BPL ACHIEVERS

Business Development conference 2016

From 7 to 9 September 2016, BPL’s Business Development team set off to Intundla Game Reserve for the annual Business Development conference. The purpose of the event was for team building and strengthening business relationships.

The theme of the conference was ‘Thrivival’, with the word being a juxtaposition between the words ‘thrive’ and ‘survive’. This was centred around thriving and excelling in the ever-changing and challenging corporate world.

The presentations on the first day consisted of top management going through the previous year’s stats, figures and successes and discussing the way forward for the year to come.

The two-day conference was packed with a range of activities, including a motivational talk by industry expert Douw Kruger on surviving in the corporate world, using the behaviour of baboon troops as an example. The team building activities were centred around a plane crash with survivors having to perform various tasks to get to a point where they could be rescued. These included making a fire using items from the first aid kit, cooking their own dinner, making ropes and building rafts. The conference culminated in a gala dinner with the evening’s theme being ‘The Kingdom of Thrivivors’ where delegates were asked to dress as their inner alter-ego and top performers for the year were recognised and awarded.

Thank you to Maria Du Preez, Megan Fairhurst, Karen Slyper and members of the Conference Planning Committee for their organising of an event that was enjoyed by all.

Award winners 2016

Top Achiever Extension Business
1st prize Karen-Sue Sacks
2nd prize Tracy Allan
3rd prize June McArthur

Top Achiever New Sales
1st prize Devlin Vermaak
2nd prize Greg James
3rd prize Ettienne De Jager

Top Achiever Panalpina Air Forwarding
Ettienne De Jager

Top Achiever Panalpina Ocean Forwarding
Karen-Sue Sacks

Top Achiever Trade Lane Volume Incentive
Karen-Sue Sacks

Panalpina Advocate
Ettienne De Jager

Top Achiever Trade Lane Team
Belinda Ingram

BPL BD Legends Special Award
Craig Moutjofy

Top Achiever Projects Award
Misty Campbell

Achieving 100% of target
Annette Naude, Christa Nel, Jayd Jennings, Marietjie Ostacchini

Achieving 120% of target
Seugnet Brown

Achieving 150% of target
Eugene Nicube, Annabelle Fulton, Khethiwe Ramahluthu, Jenny Seejram, Nandi Mkhwanazi, Ugeshni Pillay

Achieving Service Excellence in Estimating
Khodani Babulumu

Special Recognition for contribution to BD team
Currie Pisapia

Achieving Excellence in Transport
Annabelle Fulton, Greg James

Achieving Excellence in Warehousing
Greg James

Achieving Excellence in International Logistics
Karen-Sue Sacks

Achieving Excellence in Credit Management
Annette Naude

Achieving Excellence in Legal & Compliance
Christa Nel, Rheti Oertel
Warehouse conference
BPL Warehouse Division’s conference was held at the Umthunzi Hotel and Conference Centre on 26 and 27 July 2016. The theme of the conference was Purpose, Pride – Passion – Trilogy.

HR and Academy strategy conference - becoming an agile HR team
HR and Academy members held a strategy conference from 31 August to 2 September 2016 at Intundla Game Lodge in Pretoria.

The jam-packed couple of days began with a presentation from Transformation Partners SA on the best practice approach to implement the Employment Equity Strategy for BPL. The day ended with a game drive and a casual braai around the boma where the team shared many jokes and laughs.

On day 2 the team kicked off with a presentation from HR Director Harry Dimo. He delivered a review of the previous three-year HR Strategy from 2014 to 2016. He recapped on progress during this time in terms of Transformation, Employee Wellness, Performance Management, Talent Management and Employee Relations.

Sudashini Gounden from the Academy also recapped on the Training and Development part of the three-year strategy. There were further presentations from each respective business area on achievements, as well as objectives for the future.

We closed off the day with a gala dinner held in a wine cellar at the lodge. During dinner there were some special celebrations, which included the HR long service awards.

On day 3 the team wrapped up the conference by agreeing on the next three-year strategy from 2017 to 2019, which is aligned to business deliverables and strategies. Firm action plans and commitments were put in place to ensure that the HR and Academy team make a valuable contribution in the three years to come by assisting the overall business to deliver on commitments from a people perspective.

There was a true sense of commitment in terms of the value HR plan to contribute towards the growth and development of BPL.

IN MEMORY OF

Tribute to Richard Jesson
It is with great sadness that we acknowledge the passing of Richard Jesson, Commercial Manager Cape Region, after a short illness. Richard was with BPL for 18 years. In his earlier years he was Branch Manager in Port Elizabeth for Safcor and ultimately joined the Commercial team where he oversaw the commercial responsibilities for the entire Cape Region. Richard was literally larger than life, with a passion for life, for his family and for our industry – but let’s not forget about his passion for golf. He was always keen to share his knowledge and was more often than not the centre of attraction at any social event as he was always so full of fun with a very quick and witty sense of humour.

Richard will be sorely missed by everyone he came into contact with, including our clients. Our deepest sympathy to his wife Sharon and his son and daughter whom he loved so deeply.

A legend has passed on.

Congratulations to the following award recipients:
Best Division: Unit 1, Unit 2, Wrench Road
Ezelda Botha, Gerhard Van Wyk, Bobo Mhlambi
Excellence Charter Most Improved Score: East London
Jonathan Hewitt
Excellence Charter Best Score: Richards Bay and Felkston
Emmanuel Makhanya
Best Financial Performance: East London
Jonathan Hewitt
Recognition award for outstanding performance: Frans Crouse
Promotions at Liberty Towers

Congratulations to Ugeshni Naaidoo on her promotion to Key Account Manager based at Liberty Towers, Durban. Ugeshni has been at BPL since April 2008 and recently got married.

Congratulations to Nerissa Pillay on her promotion to Client Servicing Consultant. Nerissa started her career at Safcor in 2007 as a Registration Clerk in the Yellow Channel. She then became a Groupage Clerk, followed by a Junior Entry Clerk. She left the company but returned to BPL as a Forwarding Controller in 2013. She is married to Duran (who is also in shipping) and they have a nine month old daughter, Shivalia Ruhi.

Nerina Maharaj has been promoted to Client Services Support Administrator within Commercial in KZN. Nerina started at Safcor in 1988 and has held various positions since then, including Exports Typist, Exports Secretary, Imports Secretary and Operations Administrator. She is also a super-user for Cargowise and assists with training on the system. Nerina is married and has two sons aged 24 and 21 years.

From cleaner to Administrative Assistant

For many years Pauline Horst was a Bidvest Prestige cleaner based at BPL Western Cape. But her incredible energy, commitment and courage did not go unnoticed. BPL management decided to bring her on board and train her for a permanent position as an Administrative Assistant.

Pauline attended Damelin College and was awarded her Certificate of Competency. Today she can be found in the filing room or as our stand in receptionist. Well done Pauline, we are very proud of your achievements.

Highest volume achieved in 12 hour shift

Well done to BPL’s Super T Jacobs team at Warehouse 2 on a record night shift achievement on 24 September 2016. A total of 2 556 tons were handled in the 12 hour shift which equates to 231 tons per hour.

Receipts performance:
16 loads = 584 tons

Dispatched performance:
82 x 40 ft packed = 1 972 tons

Operations Superintendent Ugen Chandiah and his team reached this outstanding achievement with lots of planning and coordination.

The previous record was held by Operations Superintendent Richard Mhtongo and his team, who handled a total of 1 295 tons equating to 183 tons per hour.

BPL’s National Customs Executive (Designate)

“BPL is way ahead of most companies that I have worked for and streets ahead of the industry when it comes to the Customs Control and Duty Act,” says BPL’s National Customs Executive (Designate) Riaan Pienaar.

Riaan joined BPL in February 2016 as part of BPL’s succession plan to replace Currie Pisapia who retired at the end of October. “I am most impressed at BPL’s customs capabilities and the service provided to clients,” he says.

“For example, as soon as new legislation is introduced we have work groups and conference calls among all BPL branches. Interpretation plays a big role in our industry and we reconcile all the potential pitfalls and benefits of the legislation and make comments to SARS. We have an excellent relationship with SARS and they respect our input,” says Riaan.

Riaan began his career at SARS customs in 1990 and has worked for major logistics companies for the past 19 years, always in the role of customs consulting. “While SARS was excellent groundwork, I have learned a lot more on the outside and have always enjoyed the challenge.

“Customs is all about compliance and my role is to assist branches and clients with customs queries. There are various Acts that influence the logistics chain. We meet with clients to see what solutions we can provide in terms of rebates and better ways to work with SARS while still remaining compliant,” he explains.

Riaan enjoys playing cricket, gardening and having fun with his kids. We wish him all the best in this very important role at BPL.

Currie has played and continues to play a strategic role in the roll out of the new Customs Acts. We wish him well in his retirement and thank him for the outstanding service he has given to BPL and our clients.

What the new Customs Act is about

“The new Act is about control. SARS wants to control every movement in the supply chain and that is why there is a lot of reporting. Every party in the supply chain has to report to SARS electronically on the movement of goods.

“We aren’t sure how the SARS system will handle all the reporting structures as they are not yet in place but they must be geared for it. They have begun to implement stages of the new Act into the current Act to provide for this.

“Licensing and registration will be the first phase which is planned for the first quarter of 2017. We will have to reregister and relicense all the activities we are currently registered for.

“Customers wants to know upfront who and what they are dealing with before giving permission, as opposed to stopping containers coming in. The aim is to increase post clearance inspections, but reduce intervention at the time of actual clearance.

“They will even scrutinise the tax compliance of directors of companies and have instructed that every company has a person with sufficient knowledge of customs. SARS wants to clamp down on all illegal dealings.

“BPL is looking at setting up a call centre to assist clients with queries regarding licensing and registration. In addition we hold training for clients and staff on a regular basis. We have a national customs team that includes Carol Bennett and Zwelibanzi Makhubo and each BPL office has its own complement of customs experts. BPL is well positioned to work with all clients in promoting compliance with SARS.”
 Warehousing and Transport footprint continues to grow. Exciting opportunities for the company especially as our technology on our industry. Although daunting, this presents a clear lesson from the trip is the increased future impact of warehousing facilities. That will greatly assist in optimising the current and future BPL to the Hamburg Port. More best practice ideas were picked up of the large Panalpina Hamburg Container Freight Station close to the Hamburg Port. More best practice ideas were picked up of the large Panalpina Hamburg Container Freight Station close to the Hamburg Port.

Some stand out applications included a Google-glasses type picking technology which allows a picker to check, count and scan an item by simply looking at the barcode, as well as a Virtual Reality headset that allows you to walk through a virtual warehouse environment before it has actually been built. The trip included a visit to Panalpina's state-of-the-art temperature controlled operations close to Heathrow airport, London, where large volumes of perishable cargo are stored and handled for imports and exports. After several successful visits to some key European-based clients, the warehousing team did a site visit of the large Panalpina Hamburg Container Freight Station close to the Hamburg Port. More best practice ideas were picked up that will greatly assist in optimising the current and future BPL warehousing facilities.

A clear lesson from the trip is the increased future impact of technology on our industry. Although daunting, this presents exciting opportunities for the company especially as our Warehousing and Transport footprint continues to grow.
A smooth ride for new client VECV

“We are excited to announce that the first shipment for our new client Volvo Eicher Commercial Vehicles of five 4-ton vehicles from India to Magnis Trucks Somrand was a great success,” says Effienie de Jager, Business Development Consultant, BPL Wrench Road. Effienie looks after new business for Automotive, Aerospace and Defence and has been with BPL for close on two years. Explains Effienie, “BPL started negotiations in February this year and in May the CEO of VECV India visited South Africa for a presentation and site tour of Wrench Road and Unit 2.

“Our scope of work includes the importation of fully built up commercial vehicles, the import of parts and accessories as well as warehousing of parts, bonded storage of vehicles and final leg distribution of vehicles and parts to dealers,” says Effienie.

VECV is an India based company specialising in the manufacture of commercial vehicles. The company has been looking at expanding into Africa for a long time and it was a huge step for them to choose the correct service provider. Their key focus is service delivery and the ability to offer after-sales service and support.

“BPL will deliver spares nationwide to VECV’s selected dealers. Our Rosslyn facility will manage the import of spares and vehicles and the warehouse will be based at our Wrench Road offices,” explains Effienie.

“Next year VECV will be looking at bringing in approximately 700 vehicles. The vehicles have a Volvo drivetrain and engine as VECV India is partially owned by the Volvo Group. Their manufacturing plant in India is also responsible for producing EURO-6 compliant engines for Volvo Trucks within Europe and has a manufacturing capacity of approximately 100,000 units per annum.

“Thank you to all involved in making this shipment a huge success. The client was very happy with the professional way in which our first shipment was handled.”

The Rosslyn team managing the operational side of imports consists of Nomvula Sizulu, Fanuel Ndabaziza and Tina van den Berg at Rosslyn Vehicle Logistics. Claudia van der Walt from Rosslyn Component Logistics will manage the import of components and returnable packing material. Isaacson Ncube, under General Manager Jaco Venter, manages both departments.

Warehousing will be managed by Albert Rodgers who is the Superintendent and Gerhard Van Wyk as the Facility Manager under General Manager Ezelda Botha.

Give that man a Jameson

“BPL’s Unit 2 Warehouse has been abuzz with activity over the latter half of 2016 with the very hands on project of manually compiling Pernod Ricard’s most popular brands of alcohol into specifically designed packaging to accommodate a value added gift. The bottles received kit glove treatment during the repacking.

The build up to the project began early in the year with client meetings setting out standards, KPIs and daily/weekly/monthly reporting criteria. BPL was invited to tender and was awarded the portion for which we tendered followed by a signed Contract Packaging Agreement.

By mid-year the ‘dry goods’ arrived, consisting of the gifts, outer packaging, gift packs, inserts, stickers etc. August saw the first arrival of ‘wet goods’ followed by the first product compilation. A tightly controlled schedule throughout the project was maintained, with dedicated admin staff placed inside the cordoned off area for real time reporting.

By the time the project ended in October, the following statistics were achieved:

- Receipting of 54 x 40 foot full container loads
- Receipting of 67 x full truck loads
- Wet goods placed into bond until ready for production of gift packs
- Employment of 60 temporary workers
- Creation of 730 work orders to complete the packing process
- Storage of 1,500 pallets at any one time, consisting of packing material and/or wet stock to the final finished product
- Handling of 11 different designs packed onto 1,900 pallets over an 8 week period
- 68 trucks loaded and delivered to various retail outlets

“Everything went well and BPL was well on top of our game, even exceeding the packing schedule at times. Some gifting glasses got stuck in China due to the typhoon, but there was very little one can do about that. The project was planned to begin on 15 July and end on 15 October and was spot on with timing. The care of the project is complete and only the reconciliation of the dry and wet stock remains to wrap up the project,” said Alice Mathai: Supply Chain Project Manager, Pernod Ricard South Africa when interviewed by Linda Evans, Key Account Manager, BPL.
Sunday afternoon movies with BPL

Gauteng clients were entertained on 18 September 2016 with snacks and drinks followed by the movie Sully and popcorn. The movie is about the untold story behind the Miracle on the Hudson. On 15 January 2009, the world witnessed the Miracle on the Hudson when Captain ‘Sully’ Sullenberger glided his disabled plane onto the frigid waters of the Hudson River, saving the lives of all 155 people aboard. However, even as Sully was being heralded by the public and the media for his unprecedented feat of aviation skills, an investigation was unfolding that threatened to destroy his reputation and his career. The movie is based on the book called Highest Duty by Chesley ‘Sully’ Sullenberger. A great afternoon was had by all who attended.

BPL students gain unique insights from global industry leaders

On 5 September 2016 about 20 BPL students, who are enrolled in IMM Graduate School’s Bachelor of Business Administration, gained some unique and strategic insights into our industry by participating in a countrywide webinar featuring two industry giants.

Issa Baluch is a global leader in our industry. He is also a prolific author and Harvard University academic, FIATA board member and founding Chair of the FIATA Logistics Academy. He came to share his views on the radical changes to global third party logistics operations.

The central theme of Issa’s message was disruption and disrupters. While the need for the international movement of cargo has not changed in centuries, how we do it, with what tools and the way in which it is regulated have all been profoundly disrupted in the last 20 years. In such an environment, the individual who succeeds will firstly need to have a specialist area in which he/she is expert and also the ability to function as a generalist who understands the interdependency of each element within a global supply chain. Such a business environment is a game of continuous catch up where lifelong learning is key.

Steve Morris gave participants an inside track of the threats and opportunities posed by developments in the compliance area of international trade from his position as Executive Director, Customs Brokers and Forwarders Council of Australia and Chair, FIATA Customs Affairs Institute.

Steve shared his worldwide experience in the implementation of new international regulatory instruments, particularly the Kyoto Convention and World Customs Organisation’s SAFE Framework of Standards, in discussing the threat of non-compliant operators who undercut those like BPL who do not compromise their standards. Steve strongly advised that the way to counter such threats is through the participation in industry or government forums in which business can influence the structure and implementation of the regulatory framework.

Judy Horak (BPL PE Auto Unit) summed up the value gained by participants when she commented, “I found it extremely helpful and very informative. It also cleared up some doubts I encountered while studying.”

THOUGHT LEADERSHIP

Walkabout with SA Maritime School and Transport College

A request by SA Maritime School and Transport College for students to visit BPL Super T Jacobs facility saw 300 enthusiastic learners doing a walkabout through the Super T Jacobs facility. Gary Sivertsen, General Manager, and Pravin Singh, Facility Manager, facilitated the visits over a six-day period.

Operations Manager Nevesh Jadhu conducted the tours through the facility and explained the different warehouse operational processes within the Jacobs site.

From the Legal and Claims desk

by Anton Jnr Barwise, Legal and Claims Manager

After more than seven years in the Risk and Compliance Department, Mthokozisi Nkosi has decided to follow his journey at BPL as a learner and quickly excelled to be a claims specialist. It is with sadness and excitement that we bid him farewell and wish him luck for the future.

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We are in the final stretch of this calendar year with a couple of changes in our department. The new Document Governance Hub will replace the eDMS and is a more user friendly version of the eDMS. Training of staff has begun.

Our legal topic for this issue is the aspects surrounding apportionment.

What is apportionment and where is it relevant?

In short apportionment is when losses are shared by those parties who caused it. Contributory negligence is not a defence and does not extinguish liability, but it serves to reduce the damages award.

This will typically be in matters under the Indemnity Policy. The law makes provision to “apportion” damages in relation to every party’s negligence.

For example if one of our vehicles collides with another vehicle at an intersection, a shared or contributing negligence will be determined as a percentage. If the quantum apportionment on a 40 / 60 scale, it will mean that vehicle A must pay 40% of vehicle B’s damages and vice versa. This might have the effect that the damage to vehicle B is excessive in relation to vehicle A and vehicle A will end up paying more if pursuing the claim.

Sometimes BPL will abandon a claim based on this additional risk we are exposed to. We will negotiate an apportionment in every claim that we deal with. Until the next issue, bon voyage!
BPL Roadfreight launches Enterprise Development wash bay

BPL is proud to announce the appointment of Namisile Truck Washing Services to provide a fleet washing service as part of its Enterprise Development. BPL Roadfreight will begin as the ED’s key client and, as a result, the modelling of the business was set out to fulfill BPL Roadfreight’s needs. The wash bay assets, together with mobile units, will be acquired for this business opportunity with the view of expanding the business to service external clients.

As a responsible member of Corporate South Africa, BPL strongly believes in the upskilling and mentoring of its people. ED gives BPL the opportunity to create employment and assist in the building of a better South Africa. In addition, the BBBEE Act provides BPL the opportunity to invest in the country and maximise its BBBEE scoring.

NTWS is headed up by Namisile Princess Gumede. Namisile started her first company in 2006, providing several services including cleaning, feeding schemes and construction and has never looked back. Namisile came from humble beginnings and was a qualified educator who worked as a teacher for 22 years before realising her dream of being an entrepreneur.

BPL Roadfreight staff

Liberty Towers’ good Samaritan

A frightened and hungry kitten strayed onto the 8th floor of Liberty Towers on 25 August 2016. While most of the staff shied away, our good Samaritan Helen Hitchcock rescued the kitten and named her Smokey. A visit to the vet confirmed that her date of birth was 26 May 2016. Smokey was also given a rabies shot and dewormed. She is now well cared for by Helen.

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BPL ambassadors assist sick little girl

Little Monya is a four year old girl with Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia. She is undergoing very aggressive treatment at Unitas hospital where she alternates one week in hospital followed by one week at home. The treatment is very confusing and her little body has to endure lumbar punctures, blood transfusions and chemotherapy. The treatment will continue for the next four months, after which she will receive further treatment in tablet form for two years.

This is a heavy financial strain on the family and Monya’s mom had to leave her job to take care of her daughter. In order to assist this family in a small way, BPL contributed toiletries, nappies and pyjamas.

Hope begins with you

The Sunflower Fund is delighted to announce a brand new campaign called Sunflower Day, which will be celebrated on the third Friday of September annually. To commemorate Sunflower Day, the organisation has unveiled a new product to replace its iconic bandana, the Tube of Hope – Tope.

A tube is a multipurpose article of clothing with practical functionality for the whole family and can be worn in a variety of ways - headband, mask, scarf, cap or armband. The Sunflower Fund, a National Non-Profit Company, is dedicated to creating awareness, educating the public and handling the registration process for people to join the South African Bone Marrow Registry. The Sunflower Fund pays for the test cost of people joining the SABMR. This offers hope to those diagnosed with leukaemia and other life-threatening blood disorders. With the new tagline “Hope begins with you”, the organisation has given National Bandana Day a complete facelift.

PE Social Club participating in Sunflower Day, our charity cause for 2016. The club purchased bandanas, now called Tope, at R25 each for every member.
Liberty Towers Reach for a Dream Slipper Day
Staff at BPL Liberty Towers supported Reach for a Dream’s Slipper Day on 5 August 2016, raising R480 for this deserving charity. Well done to all the participants.

Mandela Day Charity initiative at Liberty Towers
Staff donations of handmade blankets, jerseys, beanies, scarves, food items and toiletries were donated to Lake Haven Children’s Home, Durban, a care centre for orphaned, destitute and abandoned children. The home suffered a destructive fire one week earlier and had sent out a desperate plea for help. Our staff were touched by the appeal and made a concerted effort at very short notice. Some of the compassionate staff are pictured with the donated items.

Finance and Credit Management
Staff at Liberty Towers

Ocean Import Staff at Liberty Towers

Pool tournament at Unit 2
For the past two years Unit 2 has been running a pool tournament. The tournament was an initiative from the players. It is a knockout that consists of 20 players during lunchtime only. We have had a couple of tournaments already and crowned our pool champions. The champion is awarded with a trophy to confirm his/her skill shot supremacy until the next tournament.

Our only female player, Kayleigh Taylor, who qualified for the 2016 tournament.

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Heritage celebration at Unit 2 admin office
Our traditional dishes that we cooked to celebrate Heritage Day - Samp, Mogodu, Briyaan, Dombolo, Masonja, IPhuthu, Ting (white and brown sour pap), Isijingi, Morogo and the mixture of chicken hearts, necks and gizzards.

Beautiful BPL staff wearing traditional clothing.
Back row L-R: Fikile Lushaba, Mandy Dlamini, Mthuthuzeli Masabalala, Mpumi Sibanyoni, Latifa Abubacar, Thabiso Motlwengi.
Front row L-R: Eunice Mashilo and Letsatsi Nkoana.

KZN Credit
The team embarked on a fun-filled motivator for June 2016 financial year end, themed Durban Credit July.

Winners for June/July 2016
L-R: Patrick Mvubu (2nd place), Clifford Makhubela (1st place) and Michael Cebekhulu (3rd place)

For more information contact:
Clifford 011 395 6644; Mandy 011 395 6659; Shaldon 011 395 6613.
Heritage Day at Wrench Road

Employees at Wrench Road were encouraged to join in the spirit of Heritage day by dressing in attire of any culture or heritage. There was great participation from all employees which made the judging extremely difficult. Prizes were awarded to the best dressed male Ashwin Bensingh and best dressed female Adelle Govender.

BPL Elandshaven’s year-end function

BPL Elandshaven’s year-end function took place on 23 September 2016 at Galaxy World in Befordview. The team played tenpin bowling, drove bumper cars and had an absolute blast in the arcade area.

Congratulations to the following award recipients:

Employee of the Year: Thokozani Ntuli, Storeman Operator

Best tenpin player for the day: Linda Shangase

Three strikes in a row: Peter Ramaite

Spring Day

Exports Wrench Road held a Spring brunch.

Finance Wrench celebrated Spring Day with a Mad Hatters tea party.

Credit Control

Best dressed female: Adelle Govender – Credit Control

Best dressed male: Ashwin Bensingh – Finance

BPL Elandshaven’s year-end function

L-R: Storeman Operators Thokozani Ntuli, Linda Shangase, Sunnyboy Nkoenyane, Casou Peter Ramaite; Admin Controller Natalie Walton; Admin Clerk Nicole Hurter; Ops Controller Kathleen Quigley

L-R: Cleaner Constance Njoko, Storeman Operators Freddy Mokgawa and Linda Shangase

L-R: Admin Clerk Nicole Hurter; Ops Administrator Leslie McLean

L-R: Sherq Co-ordinator Maxdelene De Lange; Facility Manager Bronwen Bothma

L-R: Ops Admin Clerk (Bondstore) Theuns Burger; Despatch Administrator Thuli Sibisi, Storeman Operators Collen Mathivha, Linda Shangase, Moses Macamo; Stock Controller Nadiah Naidoo

L-R: Cleaner Constance Njoko; Storeman Operators Freddy Mokgawa and Linda Shangase

L-R: Admin Clerk Nicole Hurter; Ops Administrator Leslie McLean

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L-R: Ops Admin Clerk (Bondstore) Theuns Burger; Despatch Administrator Thuli Sibisi, Storeman Operators Collen Mathivha, Linda Shangase, Moses Macamo; Stock Controller Nadiah Naidoo
Richards Bay and Felixton celebrated their financial year-end with a braai. Employees enjoyed relaxing outside of the workplace and getting to know their colleagues.

Liberty Towers Social Club Braai chef competition

The winners of this wonderful team building challenge on 27 August 2016 were the enthusiastic staff from Finance, Credit Management, Compliance and Risk who named their team “The Beach Bums”. A great amount of fun and excitement was had by all.

Blue team made the most of Spring Day with lots of fun and laughter.

Some of the members of the “Beach Bums” team celebrating their win.

Forwarding/Groupages: L-R: Anny, Sanele, Nosipho, Kershnie, Ansuya, Zamile, Maggie. Bottom L-R: Mbadl, Zama, Nerina

Heritage Day Warehouse Support Services Jacobs

Warehouse Umbilo year end function

Richards Bay and Felixton financial year-end

Richards Bay and Felixton celebrated their financial year-end with a braai. Employees enjoyed relaxing outside of the workplace and getting to know their colleagues.
LONG SERVICE

KZN Warehouse

Cyril Dube - 10 years

L-R: Zacharia Zulu, Warehouseman, 15 years; Maurice Ntuli, Storeman Operator, 15 years; Yusumzi Nkabinde, Storeman Operator, 15 years; Gladys Khumalo, Admin Controller, 20 years; Roy Padesychee, Storeman Operator, 15 years; Vusi Khumalo, Storeman Operator, 15 years.

Richards Bay Mill

Alex Masekhane - 25 years
Sipho Simelane - 25 years
Dewald Loggenberg - 20 years
Sunnyboy Nkoenyane - 20 years

Elandshaven

Congratulations to the following on achieving long service awards for the period September to December 2016:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Business Development</th>
<th>Years</th>
<th>Names</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Belinda Ingram</td>
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<td>Arnold Swarts</td>
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<td>Michael Gounden 40</td>
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<td>Shaun Mclaren</td>
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<td>Martha Gwala 25</td>
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<td>Vincent Moodley</td>
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<td>Lynne Blake 15</td>
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<td>Moses Pather</td>
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<td>Sheila Govender 35</td>
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<td>Jasmine Corolus</td>
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Transport

Jaka Jako 10
Alfred Thube 10
Sibongile Tambo 10
Levi Raikai 10
Alfred Nhlothu 10

Warehousing

Paras Govender 15
Joel Modise 20
Maurice Nhifi 15
Zacharia Zulu 15
Emmanuel Makhanya 15
Sipho Simelane 25
Alex Maskiene 25
Sunnyboy Nkoenyane 20
Mary-Jane Fihlela 10
Dewald Loggenberg 20

WELCOME TO

A warm welcome to the following people who have joined BPL between June and September this year:

Denver
Thalho Mogoaole
Andile Tivani

Durban, Liberty Towers
Mary Elwood

East London
Yanga Mkhwebwhe
Winsky Kasper
Siya Simelane

In-house at client
Muhammad Omar

HATCH

Congratulations to all the proud parents at BPL on the new arrivals

Gerhard Van Wyk, Warehousing Facility Manager, Gauteng, and his family on the birth of his daughter Abigail on 16 September 2016.

Marcus Elappan, Transport Director, and his family on the birth of their baby boy Isaiah Marcus Elappan on 8 July 2016.

Zola Mlambo, Forwarding Controller at International Logistics, Liberty Towers, Durban on the birth of her baby boy Uminami on 10 August 2016.

Deidre Bell, Compliance Controller Cape Town, on the birth of her baby girl Zarah Grace Glenn, born on 29 July 2016.

Ashnee Rathanlal and her husband on the birth of their precious baby boy Kartik Maharaj, born on 13 June 2016.

MATCH

Congratulations to Maxdelene de Lange, who was engaged to Carinus du Buson on 16 June 2016.

Lee-Anne Kannemeyer, Financial Accounts Manager Cape Town, on the birth of Kaylee on 24 May 2016.
HOW TO TAKE BETTER PHOTOGRAPHS

We love receiving photographs for Buzz and in order to get bright clear results that we can print BIG, please remember the following:

* Make sure the subject is looking towards the sun and the photographer’s back is to the sun.
* Switch on all the lights in the office or warehouse or go outside where there is lots of lighting.
* Get close! Crop out unnecessary background. Rather move closer than zoom in.
* Most cellphones have the capability to take high quality photos but often these are emailed in a small size. There is usually an option of small, medium, high and original size when emailing from phones. Choose original size to send the best quality photo.
* Photographs must be clearly renamed. Eg. Year-end function, not JPEG1243.
* The caption with the details of the picture must be included at the end of the article and must state each person’s full name and surname from left to right. Eg. Caption (L-R), back row: Jon Smith, Mary Brown.........

IT’S COMPETITION TIME

Three prizes up for grabs:

First prize - R500 Pick n Pay voucher
Second prize – R250 Pick n Pay voucher
Third prize – R100 Pick n Pay voucher

Stand a chance to WIN by answering this question:

Which warehouse team broke a record and how many tons per hour were achieved?

Send your answer to: marketing@bpl.za.com by 14 December 2016.

THE BPL BUZZ TEAM

Please email your articles, comments, photographs and any interesting news you would like to share in BPL Buzz to:

Jenny Relief - jennyr@bpl.za.com - JHB
Nikki Lakey - nikki@bpl.za.com - CT
Sarah Lindeque - sarahl@bpl.za.com - Durban
Sharon Blom - sharonb@bpl.za.com - PE and ELS

Yolanda Samuels - yolandas@bpl.za.com - Transport
Rebecca Maduray - rebeccama@bpl.za.com - Warehousing

The winner of the Buzz 9 competition is Modesta Maphumulo, Client Liaison Controller (right), receiving her prize from Sharlin Dorasamy, Facility Manager.