



## CELEBRATING WORKERS DAY WITH UNCERTAINTIES

By Lindokuhle Frank

As the country prepared to celebrate international Workers' Day on the 1<sup>st</sup> of May, the unemployment rate in South Africa rises and remains a major issue, particularly for the youth because of the lack of job opportunities in the country, and the impact of COVID-19 to businesses and the economy.

The first recorded celebration of Workers Day in South Africa dated back to 1896 and was organised by the Johannesburg District Trades Council. The movement gained momentum in 1950 when the Communist Party of South Africa called for a strike on the 1<sup>st</sup> of May to protest the Suppression of Communism Act.

The strike led to police violence that caused the death of 18 people across Soweto. A few years later, just after the first democratic elections in South Africa in 1994, 1<sup>st</sup> of May was declared an official national public holiday.

This year, Workers Day was celebrated during a very difficult time in the country, especially for workers and those looking for work because amidst battling with the COVID-19 pandemic and its attempt to contain the virus outspread, South Africa is suffering from the increasing rates of unemployment. The economy is still struggling to recover from the subsequent lockdown and current pandemic and many people especially the youth are suffering from its impacts.

The South African unemployment rate jumped to a record high in the fourth quarter of last year (2020) as the economy was battered by the COVID-19 pandemic. Statistics show that the unemployment rate stood at 32,5% in October-December quarter meaning that about 7,2 million people were unemployed.

With the increasing rates of unemployment, lack of job opportunities in the country, and unstable economy, the future for the youth and graduates is in question as they are the most vulnerable to unemployment.

Photo: Phelisa Mkendlana

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# MADIBAZNews

News for the students, by the students

## Administrator

Sade' Prinsloo  
Sade'.Prinsloo@mandela.ac.za

## Editor-in-chief

Ashley Malepe  
s219006857@mandela.ac.za

## Marketing

MadibazMarketing@mandela.ac.za

## Communications

Sisanda Ngqkoqwane  
MadibazNewsLiaison@mandela.ac.za

## News Editor

Mbali Ngube  
s219043027@mandela.ac.za

## Lifestyle & Entertainment Editor

Leigh Nakeetah Jason  
s219919569@mandela.ac.za

## Sports Editor

Cwenga Maqhubela  
s217310257@mandela.ac.za

## Science and Tech Editor

Asithandile Ntsondwa  
s21711869@mandela.ac.za

## Opinions Editor

Buhle Buthelezi  
s219177589@mandela.ac.za

## Graphic Designer

Charmyon Dixon  
s220493928@mandela.ac.za

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## LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

We are down to the fifth month of the year, which still feels fresh to most as some are still in primary stages of their resolution implementation. But worry not late bloomer, you are not left behind, there is still plenty of time to get your ducks in a row if you haven't that is!

May is a month of transition and serves as the best month to make those tangential choices that can bring about positive changes in your life and of those around you.

One of those decisions may include getting vaccinated for colds or flu as we move to a cold season... but let's talk COVID-19 vaccine, shall we? Well then, read on that process and how you can get vaccinated.

After reading on that, get some ideas on how to ubiquitously focus on that fulfilling task that you've always been delaying, we know this may be difficult especially for new millennials, so we have a fix for you as we feature an article that solely focuses on switching off devices that may be the cause for that delay.

Remaining on focus, learn how eye vision can be restored. With no intend to throw in a pun, we retrospect on how has Madibaz played thus far at the recent FNB Varsity Cup Rugby games.

There is surely plenty more for you to enjoy!

### Ashley Malepe

## NEWS FROM THE ENTREPRENEURIAL HUB

By Khomotso Skosana

Zikhona and Akhona Matolengwe are twin sisters that initially started their entrepreneurial journey when they were in Grade 10 at UMtiza High School, Santa Location in East London. The very first item they made was a bowtie for a wedding which turned eyes in the community towards their direction. From then they started making bowties for weddings, churches, and pre-school graduations.

When they enrolled at Nelson Mandela University, their entrepreneurial journey continued when they started Campus Clothing Clinic. A business which offers clothing alterations and tailoring services at student friendly prices. Their journey was inspired by their parents who are both business owners and their unwavering



support has helped them overcome the challenges of being both students and entrepreneurs.

In 2019, Entrepreneurial Development in Higher Education (EDHE) hosted its first ever Intervarsity competition where students from 26 universities in the country pitched their businesses. EDHE is a program that promotes entrepreneurship in Higher Education. It aims to develop the entrepreneurial capacity of students, academics, and leaders. EDHE is for students exploring their entrepreneurial abilities so that they are exposed to a lot more instead of being confined to their day-to-day student life.

Campus Clothing Clinic participated in the first ever EDHE intervarsity competition and their business reached the finals, after competing at the internal round and then regional round against other Eastern Cape finalists from University of Fort Hare, Rhodes, and Walter Sisulu University.

"I have learnt so much from this experience, it was not only about winning the competition but instead we gained national exposure, exposure for our brand/business as well as networking with other students has taught me a lot. It added to the development of our business massively." Zikhona said about her experience at Intervarsity.

Akhona has graduated and Zikhona is currently completing her final year. Zikhona is running the business, Campus Clothing Clinic which is located at Sanlam Student Village (SSV), next to Ziggy's Tuck Shop, should you require any alterations or dressmaking.

Zikhona has recently been elected as the University representative for the EDHE Studentpreneurs Community of Practice (CoP). The aim of the CoP is to promote entrepreneurship at universities amongst students. For more information on entrepreneurship, you can email [entrepreneurship@mandela.ac.za](mailto:entrepreneurship@mandela.ac.za)

Photo: Supplied

## 'THE REAL PRICE OF A DEGREE'



By Lungisa Somtombo

To highlight the struggles that poor black students face in higher education institutions, due to not affording academic fees and accommodation, Thuthukani Nkosi wrote a book titled 'The Real Price of a Degree.'

With this book, Nkosi hopes to raise awareness among parents whose children are enrolled in higher education institutions, as well as prospective students, about the struggle's university students face in making ends meet, paying registration fees, and securing housing.

Students have lost their virginity to student representatives who are supposed to help them acquire housing, some have become escorts, and families have sold their livestock to pay academic fees while the government does the bare minimum to assist, according to the Ulundi-born author.

Currently, the academic year is proceeding in many universities around the country while there are students who have not yet registered, which shows that the South African education system is not conducive for all.

The University of KwaZulu-Natal Masters Candidate said stories he heard from students while he was part of student politics together with his experience of being financially excluded influenced why he wrote this book.

"I was financially excluded, my younger brother is currently financially excluded," said Nkosi.

He said he wants to document our history, teach young girls that education is important but not worth their souls and expose the unwillingness of the government to open doors of learning for all.

"I want to expose how affirmative action to redress past inequalities is nothing but a rhetoric to buy votes," said Nkosi.

The title of this book highlights that a degree does not simply cost money to poor black students, as some had to sell their bodies, sell livestock with sentimental value, and some had to go to prison fighting for free education in order to obtain their degrees.

This book is going to help those who are not in universities now to prepare for the challenges that await and not focus on the announcement of free education which is just a dream.

## NEW COVID-19 VACCINATION PLAN FOR SOUTH AFRICA

By Sikhulule Moyeni

The South African vaccination process has been slower than expected. However, with the help of the new deal with the pharmaceutical company Pfizer, South Africa is set to recover from its setbacks. The country has been able to secure 20 million vaccine doses from Pfizer.

According to Health Minister Dr Zweli Mkhize, the new agreement alongside a deal with Johnson & Johnson, will set the stage for a significant and rapid expansion of the country's vaccination programme. Despite the temporary pause of the Johnson & Johnson vaccine. The minister is still hopeful that indeed lives still will be saved.

In preparation for the mass vaccination, the government has commenced a deep study of the Sisonke Protocol to ensure the efficiency of future operations.

"Similarly, we will also embark on an implementation study with a limited number of Pfizer doses used amongst health care workers- this will be yet another valuable contribution to the science of mass vaccination." Mkhize further states.

Furthermore, the Department of Health has worked on a revised strategy to ensure that the vaccination campaign targets an extensive amount of people. And that in the final programme it expresses the will of the people.

More information and finer details of the revised vaccination programme will be announced to the public in due course. As well as when will the registration of the first eligible citizens on the Electronic Vaccination System be expected to register.

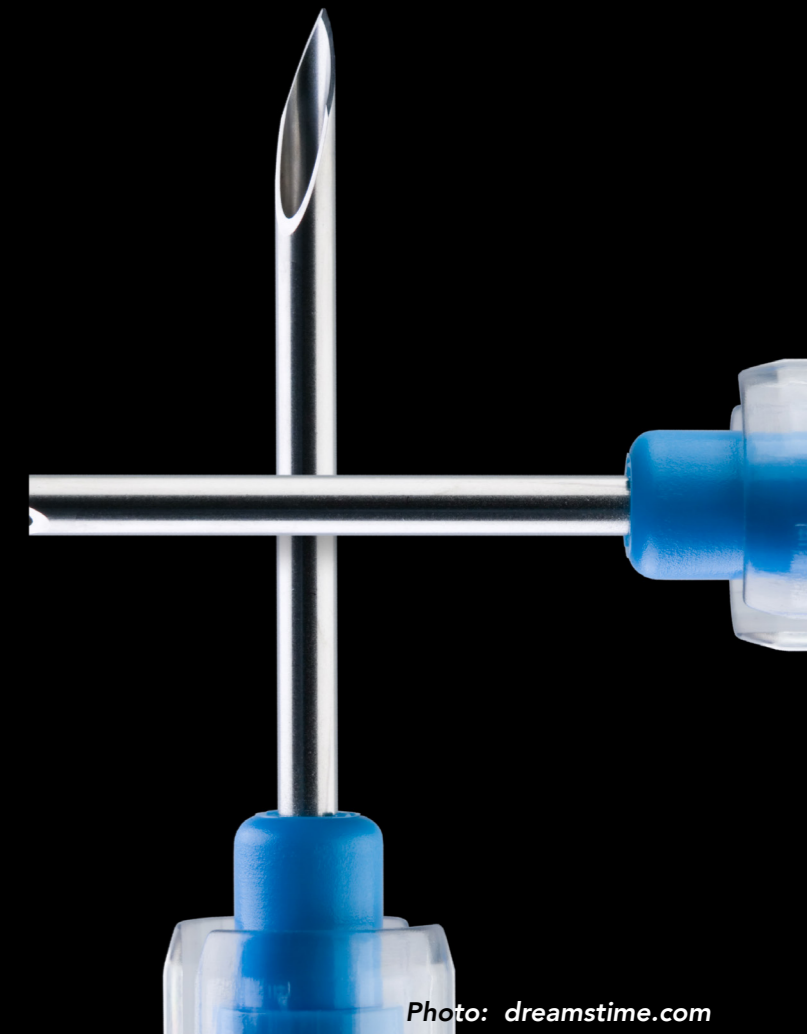


Photo: dreamstime.com

# POETRY IS TO THE MIND AS AEROBIC IS TO THE BODY-TRILOGY (1)

By Panenyasha Nhavira

Recently, I could not help but hear my classic American friends throw an A.S.A.P meeting to discuss an urgent matter. Little did I know that I would be plunged into the conversation of a social storm to discuss 'Never Have I Ever' and how majority of the world binge watched the show in a day. So, what made it so addictive? What managed to captivate us to the point of dedicating ourselves to relax on our relaxation day and enter a lesson on my friends' perspective as she introduced me to the Indian life and struggles of a teenager. It was not the fact that she was just Indian, the main character was real, she was not a model placed in the role of being a beauty queen, it was realistic. It was extremely relatable even after our teen years have passed. It dealt with all the aspects of life.

Therefore, poetry is the same, you may stumble across a poem and read it, not because you are forced but just for leisure purposes and then the poem resonates with you in many ways possible with regards to your life. The emotions that your head had convinced your heart not to feel five years ago come back, not to drown you but to give you a way out, to grieve and heal. Little did you know that there were open wounds bleeding without the application of antibiotics and antiseptics. What you needed was an exercise for your emotions and comfort for your heart. You need poetry for your brain to unconvince you to feel and heal from the past and certain wounds. Trust me I know. You might just find it is the most liberating feeling in life, to heal!

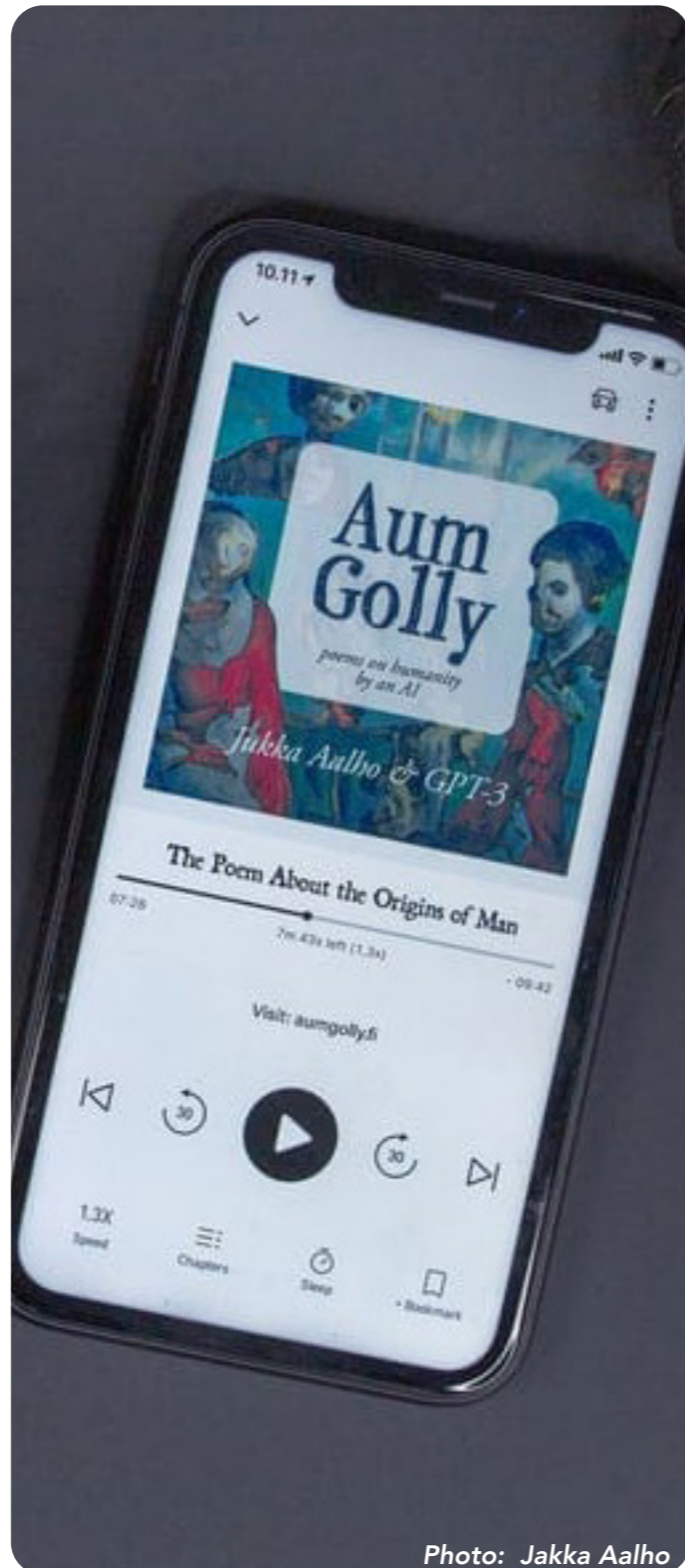


Photo: Jukka Aalho

# BE SAVVY WITH YOUR RANDS

By Buhle Buthelezi

In the world we live in today it is of importance for us to have savings, because we cannot predict the future. Saving is a way of investing in yourself for yourself.

Money you have saved up can be of assistance to you after you graduate and must immediately start a new job, where you will only get your first earnings after you have worked the entire month.

It is important to know what exactly you spend your money on, you could never really know where to cut, when you do not know what you spend on. Budgeting is an important aspect when it comes to saving money. Many of us have been to the mall and came back later in the day wondering where all the money we had went, when you budget and stick to your budget you are better able to account for your spending while identifying your problem areas. Try to cut down on unnecessary expenses by buying in bulk with your friends if you can, spending less than what you get monthly, not doing grocery shopping when you are hungry, making a grocery list and sticking to it and eating takeout less than you normally would.

One may also consider other ways of making an extra income, like finding a part-time job, selling goods or tutoring. There are many avenues these days in which a person can branch into and make an extra income even if it is not much, but we all must start somewhere to get where we want to be. There is no better time than now to start saving, no matter how small the amount is.



Photo: pexels.com

# THE VOTING GAME

## #MYVOTECOUNTS

By Sikhulule Moyeni

Voting is one of the most important human rights to date in a democratic system. Particularly in South Africa amongst other countries, it is one of those human rights that others may rather not exercise – especially the youth. So, the question that often lingers, is – are they not voting because of apathy or disillusionment?

Most youth has been disillusioned by the foul play presented in politics and how little has changed in our 26 years of democracy. Corruption has infiltrated the world in such a way that even upcoming and young leaders are being caught up in it. This leaves us more hopeless. Like a series of doom and gloom is settling all around us.

In South Africa's democratic history, the most recent voter turnout figures have been the lowest. As of 2019 it stands at 64.34% and is predicted to precede on decreasing.

But on the bright side, student politics has been on the rise. Our university has recently held the Student Representative Council elections and the rise in the number of voters is detected. This shows that not all hope is lost, and there is a possibility that students can drive change. According to the dean of students, a total of 10147 students voted this year out of the overall population of 29482. Which is double the amount of what has been visible in the past two years.

"I do vote, and I think it is effective. Because I get the chance to say. But I would like to see a change in the application process. Whereas they can implement stricter rules to ensure fairness in the voting system and minimal cheating" Malunga Siyothula, a third-year student, shares his views.

"I did not participate in the voting process for this year's SRC elections, but I usually do." Siyothula further states.

The question remains, is voting really worth it? What one can say at the moment is that we as a youth should inform ourselves on these issues and get to know the election process of our country. In order to make an informed vote and be the change, we want to see. And who knows, you might just be a game-changer!

Photo: freepik.com

# JUDAS AND THE BLACK MESSIAH

By Nosisa Bodoza

Starring in another movie concerning a Black Panther, Daniel Kaluuya does not disappoint bringing another remarkable performance to the screen. He brings Fredrick Hampton, leader of the Black Panther party to life in Judas and the Black Messiah (Shaka King, 2021). Alongside the brilliant LaKeith Stanfield who plays William O'Neal, the film portrays the struggle of prejudice.

At the beginning of the biographical film, O'Neal – a car thief – is arrested for imitating an FBI specialist and... stealing a car. He is given the choice to serve his time or go home on condition to be an FBI informant and spy on the Black Panther leader, Fred. As portrayed throughout the film, the party faces police brutality amongst other struggles. Fred's mysterious capacity to being a revolutionist and trying to end racism brings rivals together to fight for change, made him a threat to the paranoid FBI. O'Neal truly brings out the story of Judas, as we see him struggle with his divided loyalty through being used as a pawn by the FBI to assassinate Fred. In the end, Fred is killed by the police in his sleep and the other members of the party are arrested.

The film was a huge success, filled with ideological paradoxes that show America's struggle with racism over the years. The title is based on the story of Jesus and Judas in the Bible, as is the events of the film. If you love history, education, or subliminal messages, then this film is for you!

An insightful and remarkable body of work, I give it a 9/10.

Photo: frame rated

# IS IT TIME TO SWITCH OFF?



By Laiken Faiers

It is no secret that our devices hinder our productivity. Unfortunately, this is not the only negative impact they have. Sitting for hours on your device can lead to chronic back and neck pain, disrupted sleep, depression and anxiety, and the increased health risks of type 2 diabetes, heart disease and obesity.

Not all screen time is harmful though. Devices allow us to connect with our friends and family (incredibly vital during these times), and also allow us to stay informed, keep track of our productivity and provide us with a safe platform to study.

Since our screens are not going anywhere anytime soon what can we do about it?

**#1 Gain Insight.** Know how much time and what you spend your time doing on your phone. This can be tracked through conscious effort to monitor your actions or by checking on your phone. Knowing this will provide you with valuable insight into your digital well-being.

**#2 Cleanse your phone.** Take the time to delete apps that do not benefit your productivity or mental health. By keeping things minimal you will help make the temptation easier to dismiss.

**#3 Monochromatic screen.** During your working hours change your screen setting to monochromatic. Colourful screens have a powerful way of keeping our eyes glued to them.

**#4 Turn off your notifications.** Studies say that it takes you 23 minutes and 15 seconds to get back into deep focus after having been distracted. That is a lot of time to waste simply because your phone beeped to let you know that you are running out of storage space.

**#5 Device free time.** Allot a specific time each day to spend device free. This is a simple way to minimise unnecessary screen time that requires little effort. If you are worried about being bored, remember that boredom is the very source of creativity.

Taking control of our digital well-being is an important form of self-care. One that is now necessary in order to live optimally.

Photo: [static.independent.co.uk](http://static.independent.co.uk)

# DAM! – THE LINGERING TRUTH

By Kamohelo Tladi

“This town, look at it, it’s perfect from the outside but underneath there’s a lot going on” – Bernoldus

The truth has the tendency to linger. Echoing through the ages, unincumbered by the passing of time. It is the rawest material of our souls, murmuring all around us through the seas and land. It speaks to us in the morning when we wake – reminding us of all the promises which we have made to God. Are we being just to ourselves and others? That is the question of the ages. Let the singing of a generation pull from the pit of its soul all that is true and just – no matter how ugly it may seem.

The Showmax original series DAM serves as a reminder of our connectedness to our land. Not only because it is our land but also the land of our ancestors. It is an identity anchor like no other. Once this truth is forgotten, nature will always remind us of this forgotten truth – raging at the absurdity of those who try to hide it. The result of which shall affect everyone. This distortion of identity is a concurrent theme throughout the first season of this series. Beautifully and gruesomely depicted - as though the writer intends to leave his audience appalled. As though he wants us to be extremely uncomfortable yet curious enough to want to see the journey though.

This is something quite different coming out of South Africa. Created by Alex Yazbek and starring the likes of Pallance Dladla and Neil Sandilands as Bernoldus. It is a very compelling story told through amazing imagery. It is for that reason that I feel it deserves a seven out of ten.

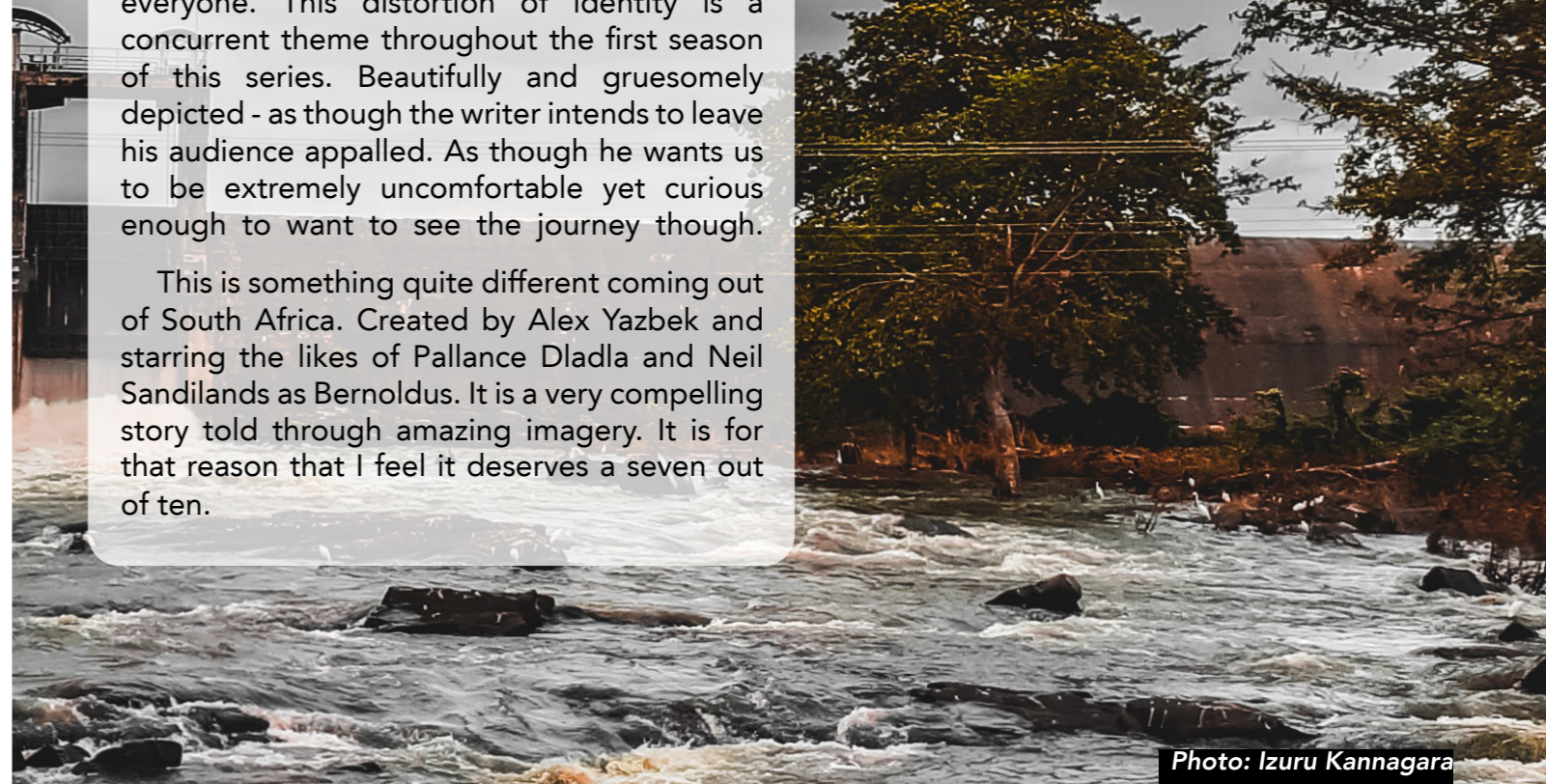


Photo: Izuru Kannagara

# TR(EAT) YOURSELF

By Laiken Faiers

There is one universal truth we all believe in and that is that everyone loves chocolate. So, who would not love to bake some dark chocolate cookies? These cookies are essentially brownies in biscuit form. They have a rich chewy centre with a crisp surface. Dark chocolate is a great source of antioxidants and could potentially improve brain function (just some extra trivia to help persuade you). This is a recipe that will quickly become you and your loved ones' new favourite!

Ingredients:

- 25g Butter
- 125g Dark chocolate
- 1 Egg
- 40g Brown sugar
- 40g Caster sugar
- 35g Flour
- ¼ tsp Baking Powder
- Pinch of salt
- 30g Dark chocolate chips

Method:

1. Preheat your oven to 190°C and line your baking tray with parchment paper
2. Melt your butter and dark chocolate in a heatproof bowl.
3. In a separate large bowl beat your eggs and sugar together till the mixture pales and doubles in size. When this is complete you can incorporate the melted chocolate and butter into the mixture.
4. By hand, fold in the flour, baking powder, cocoa powder, salt and chocolate chips. Once these ingredients have been perfectly incorporated leave the cookie mixture to cool in the fridge for 30 minutes.
5. Because of the sticky consistency of the mixture use 2 spoons to scoop it onto the parchment paper. Please note that this cookie likes to expand in the oven so leave a good amount of space between each.
6. Bake in the middle of the oven for 7-10 minutes. A good indication that these cookies are done is if the top of the cookie has a cracked surface.
7. Leave these cookies to cool on the baking tray for a few minutes before transferring them onto a cooling rack. Then enjoy!

Photo: i.pinimg.com

## TURN A HOBBY TO A SIDE-HUSTLE!

Photo: ustoday.com

By Nosisa Bodoza

There is a level of frustration that comes with being a university student that sometimes only money can fix. Some of us are completely dependent on our parents, others on bursaries, and others may be less fortunate. Working full-time as a student is a bit difficult as it is hard to fit both academics and work into your schedule. But worry not, there are plenty of ways you can generate income for yourself and focus on your studies, you just need to find the right hustle. Sometimes, your income is literally in your hands. You know something you are good at, so why not offer your services at a price? This will ease your financial burden and prove as more fun!

Here is a list of ideas you can work on to generate income for yourself.

- **Freelancing**

With this route you can do plenty of things and it is very flexible because you can work in the comfort of your own home. If you are good at writing, you can be a copywriter where you can advertise, write product descriptions, and sell them, maybe even start yourself a blog. If you have a good eye, take good portraits, and have a camera, be a freelance photographer. As long as you will have a good niche on what content you will create, then go for it!

- **Start a YouTube Channel**

Maybe you are a good cook, make-up artist or maybe you love everything to do with exercise, then set up a YouTube channel for yourself! You can give out tutorials on certain things if you bring a good content, you may get subscribers and earn money.

- **Baking**

If you are good at baking then you can start a small business for yourself and advertise on social media platforms your cakes, cookies, you name it! Some students love these things but may not have the time to bake so offer your services!

Marketing yourself is one way that will generate income. Whatever hobby, make sure you evaluate it first to see if you can make it work.



Photo: urbancompany.com

## SAFETY TIPS FOR A WILD NIGHT

By Tsireledzo Musecho

An integral part of student life is having fun, and what is having fun without being surrounded by multiple people in a nice, upbeat environment? April and May are host to many public holidays and recess and holidays in general, meaning enough time to have fun and some rest from the weight of education. Like all other good things, partying can cause chaos. Here are three tips that can help you when you are having the time of your life:

### 1. Do not drink excessively.

The reason for this moral is still the same. Do not drink and drive. Even though you are not the one driving one should still be cautious about over intoxicating especially around people that you do not know. This can help you make rational decisions and to keep watch of being spiked.

### 2. Do not go out alone.

This rule has been around for decades and applies even today. One must never go drinking alone. This is not to only provide fun but to also ensure that you have people that will always keep you safe.

### 3. Uber yourselves home.

Uber services work until late. One can always uber themselves back home if they feel tipsy or drunk. Other services like Didi and Bolt are also available. One must always bear in mind that by making such a wise decision of e-hailing instead of driving, you do not only save your life but the lives of others.

Remember to always adhere to COVID-19 regulations, happy grooving Madibaz!

## MYSTERIOUS DEATH OF BIRDS SPEEDED UP SCIENTIFIC INVESTIGATION

By Sanele Thwala

Many birds have been found dead in the streets of Gqeberha (formerly known as Port Elizabeth), Eastern Cape and that has evoked fear in the public since the cause of death was still unknown.

It was bothersome to hear and see many birds dying on the streets. This led to the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (SPCA) issuing an urgent warning letter to the public to not pick the birds and bird owners to not let their birds out of the cages since it was not clear yet if the birds were killed by a virus or poison. The SPCA also advised people to not consume domestic chicken until the cause of death was confirmed. The public was so concerned fearing for their lives with the assumption they would be the next victims of whatever was killing the birds. Thanks to scientists, the Municipal Health Service's investigation was carried out so promptly. Newcastle Disease virus – an Avian Paramyxovirus – has been confirmed as the cause of the death of birds in the Eastern Cape Province.

The significance of birds in our lives and their contribution to the ecosystem is undeniable. Birds have helped to shape the plant life that we see around us and the world. When birds travel, they take seeds and disperse them through their droppings to new landmasses. That is why we need birds more than we need us. And, that is why it was highly important to know the cause of their death to find ways to stop it.



Photo: Pexels.com



# RESTORING VISION

## MINING SPACE ROCKS

By Lindelwe Myeza

Current models of planetary formation describe asteroids as leftover protoplanetary material that was never able to form into large moons and planets. In addition, debris from planets destroyed during the chaos of the young solar system, making these objects pristine time capsules of what the conditions were like in the early solar system.

Since the asteroids formed from the very same molecular cloud as the planets they may contain similar resources to the ones on Earth. And, sometimes (pretty much all the time) the resources we value most here on Earth are found in great abundance within these ancient rocks. This has sparked the interest of private companies and governments alike in the race to be the first to bring back a profitable amount of resources from the asteroids.

Asteroids are mainly categorized into three groups: C-type, S-type, and M-type asteroids. C-type asteroids are rich in water, carbon, and phosphorus, they are also the most common type of asteroid. S-type asteroids contain various metals like nickel, cobalt, and rare metals like gold and platinum. A small 10m S-type asteroid contains about 650 000 Kg of metal, with about 50 Kg being gold and platinum. M-type asteroids hold more metal and are far rarer than S-type asteroids.

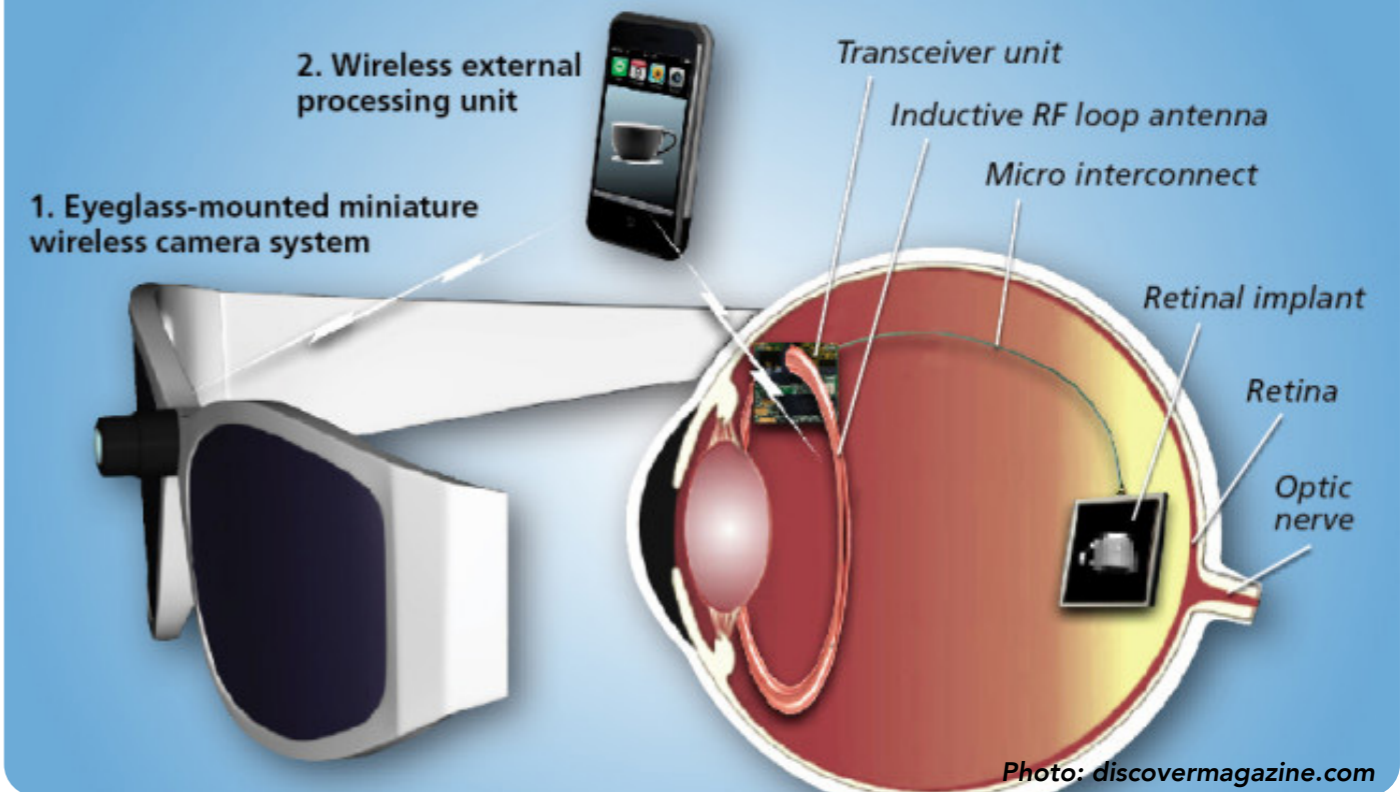
Due to the exponential increase in the demand for raw materials, mineral reserves on our planet are dwindling fast and an alternative to mining these minerals on Earth needs to be implemented before environmental damage becomes irreversible and we deplete what little we have.

As a steppingstone to the goal of industrially mining asteroids, scientists and engineers have been working on missions that test out very important parts of how asteroid mining could work with current technology, from manoeuvring from one asteroid's orbit to another, to returning samples from distant asteroids to Earth.

Although It might not seem like it right now, asteroid mining will be one of the most important aspects of the world economy moving forward, considering the current trajectory of technology that is, and considering the environmental relief this provides more should be done to achieve it quicker.

Photo: nasa.gov:

### How Retinal Implants Work



By Mhlongo Surprise

**The retina is the part of the eye that receives images, and it contains rods and cones that are sensitive to light. If for any reason, the cells that respond to light in the eye dies, vision is lost; one then has to make a life-changing decision of whether to artificially bring back their vision or remain vision impaired of which is an undeniably difficult decision for all victims.**

Diego Ghezzi and his team from the Ecole Polytechnique Federale de Lausanne (EPFL) have developed a new retinal implant – POLYRETINA. It is designed to function together with a camera embedded on smart glasses, which enables a person to wear these smart glasses with the implant surgically inserted at the back of their eyes, so the image seen through the camera is interpreted; a black and white image of 10500 pixels is produced.

The idea behind this invention was after Ghezzi and his team recognized many people suffering from a specific retinal disease get their implants removed approximately three years after surgery. One of the biggest problems is that most existing implants are usually limited to 20° of field vision with a visual resolution of fewer than 100 pixels. This requires a patient to constantly re-familiarize themselves with their surrounding thus rendered "impractical and cognitively exhausting." The team of researchers then developed their implant with a field vision of 43° and a resolution of 10498 photovoltaic pixels. The POLYRETINA is not yet proven for human trials but has shown significant results in a mouse model and a special virtual reality program. Human trials are anticipated to date.

By Hlengiwe Phiri

Plastic is one of the best products science introduced but over the years the misuse of plastic has led to a high demand and supply chain with minimum maintenance strategies. Today plastic is simultaneously making our lives easy and killing us.

Plastic is a long chain of chemicals known as a polymer. Synthetic polymers take years to degrade. Plastic has inhabited Earth for decades, invading the lives of animals, causing sickness and death. Recycling has been encouraged for years. Currently, approximately 9% of plastic is recycled and the remaining is either burnt, reused, or roams around the planet.

There are two classifications of plastic: thermoset and thermoplastic. Thermosets are the more stubborn plastics that are hard to recycle. Recycling stubborn plastics is expensive and many recycling companies usually avoid recycling such plastics due to them generating more loss than profit. Other stubborn plastics require the manufacturing of plastic for them to be recycled. Thermoplastics are easier to recycle as they can be melted into a liquid and reshaped into a different form.

Recycling companies must group plastics before recycling them. For instance, the polyvinyl chloride plastic used mainly in construction and plumbing contains high levels of hazardous additives that can damage other plastics if they were to mix during recycling. Some plastics have an optimum point whereby if it is recycled beyond the optimum point, it loses the ability to be shaped. Other plastics are a combination of different plastics meaning recycling companies should first separate the plastics then group them correctly.

Plastic is very useful and does a lot of things for us therefore banning it completely would result in some consequences since a proper substitute for plastic has not yet been discovered. Therefore, we should try to minimise the use of plastic, be creative and reuse the ones we already have and recycle to prevent mass production of plastic. Remember, the problem is not the existence of plastic but how we treat it.



Photo: Leonid Danilov

## WHY IS IT HARD TO RECYCLE PLASTIC?



## WHAT CAN FNB MADIBAZ TAKE FROM THEIR RECENT MISFORTUNES

By Tumelo Muvhali

The FNB Madibaz rugby team hopes to build on recent performances as they battle to keep up with the momentum of the new FNB Varsity Cup rugby season.

Four games into the 2021 season, Madibaz find themselves second from bottom with only 4 points to their name after 4 consecutive losses against North-West University (NWU), Central University of Technology (CUT), University of Western Cape (UWC) and University of Johannesburg (UJ).

But where exactly has it gone wrong for Madibaz this season?

### Second season syndrome

Many fans believe that the Madibaz poor start to the new season is down to something called 'second season syndrome'. This merely refers to a sports club that performed above expectations following a promotion but performs below expectation in the subsequent campaign.

However, the Madibaz have shown signs of improvements picking up 4 bonus points from the first 4 matches of the season, suggesting that it might be too early to tell if the Madibaz are suffering from a second season syndrome.

### Absence of fans

One might speculate that the Madibaz are missing the electric atmosphere from the Madibaz stadium that kept them going in the varsity shield last season but Madibaz eighth man Cato Cameron who played a crucial role in their promotion campaign had other views.

"No, I don't think so, it may have an impact on bigger sides like maties for instance, but I don't think it has an impact on us, particularly our aggression as a team," he said.

### Can FNB Madibaz avoid relegation and how?

Only time will tell whether Madibaz can avoid relegation this season, but the season is still in its early stages, and it's far too soon to condemn André Tredoux's men.

Coach Tredoux went on to express his satisfaction in an interview with [Madibazsport](#) regarding the superb team spirit, but also admitted that frequent mistakes are costing them highly. "We never gave up and our attacking maul was very good, but we did let ourselves down at times with too many errors," he added.

Madibaz's first 4 results: NMU (28) VS (47) NWU EAGLES, NMU (13) VS (51) CUT, NMU (40) VS (47) UWC, NMU (22) VS UJ (33).

Photo: supersport.com