# **Editorial**

### IN MAURITIUS SUGAR CANE ALSO MEANS ELECTRICITY

From PhysOrg

Far out into the Indian Ocean where it is forced to be self-reliant, the island nation of Mauritius is weaning itself off fossil fuels by turning to its main cash-crop, sugar cane for electricity.

The leftover, crushed sugar cane stalks and tips – dry fibrous material known as "bagasse" – is burned to help power Mauritius and reduce its reliance on coal and oil.

Electricity from sugar cane now accounts for 14% of the island's needs and, when combined with other renewable sources such as solar, wind and hydro, provides nearly a quarter of daily consumption.

"The government's goal is to increase the share of renewable energy in the energy mix to 35% by 2025," said Deputy Prime Minister Ivan Collendavelloo who is also energy minister.

"The 35% is not far off; we will have 11 solar parks by next year and at least two wind farms," he said.

"Independent producers in the sugar industry will continue to provide the largest share of renewable electricity from bagasse," he added. In Mauritius, around 60% of the island's electricity is generated by four sugar companies, each running its own thermal power station.

The plants run on coal for part of the year then switch to sugar cane by-products when harvest season comes. With a cellulose/hemicellulose content between 65 and 80%, bagasse is a clean-burning, medium to high calorific value fuel.



35MW bagasse and coal co-generation plant in Mauritius

## **Power 24/7**

At the end of November, the harvest is in full swing in the fields surrounding the Omnicane company, in the south of the island.

Heavy trucks pulling huge trailers are lined up next to an immense warehouse to unload their cargo of fresh-cut sugarcane. During the harvest, 8500 tons are sent daily to this facility – a total of around 900000 tons for the year.

The cane stalks are crushed to extract juice for sugar production. They are then soaked to extract the last of the juice and then heated to dry. Finally, squashed and dried, the stalks are fed into a thermal power station where they burn at 500°C, fuelling turbines that produce electricity, both for the plant and the national grid (co-generation).

"Electricity is available 24 hours a day, on demand, without having to wait for the wind or the sun, since we can store bagasse as we would oil and coal," said Jacques D'Unienville, Omnicane's manager.

And the CO<sub>2</sub> greenhouse gas produced by the burning? It is captured, according to D'Unienville, and used to add the fizz to soft drinks.

# **WYNPRESS**

The Rotary Club of

Wynberg



Vol: 70 No. 20 10<sup>th</sup> January, 2019

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January in Rotary

**Vocational Service month** 

Wynberg Rotary meet every Thursday, 6 for 6.30pm, Palm House, Wynberg.

For more information about our club, like us on Facebook or visit our website:

Wynbergrotary.org.za



	Minutes: 13 <sup>th</sup> December 2018			
	Compiled by Barry Cleveland			
Attendance	18 members = 69.2% Visitors: Barbara Smith, Val Cleveland, Philip Munday, Michelle Jackson, Marlene Dietrich, James Edwards.			
From the chair of President Biffy	<ul> <li>At this end-of-Rotary-year party, a special welcome to all the partners present.</li> <li>The 12<sup>th</sup> December marked WRC's 69<sup>th</sup> anniversary!</li> <li>Global Grants: District 5170 (California) have approved our request for assistance towards this year's Proms recipients, Victoria Hospital and Community Medics. 6 American Rotary clubs will be involved. All very good news indeed!</li> </ul>			
Fellowship	String's birthday, and Bruce and Marlene's anniversary on 14 <sup>th</sup> December. Bev and Colin's plus Ken and Bertie's anniversary on 16 <sup>th</sup> December. Are and Wenche's anniversary on 21 <sup>st</sup> December (fondly in our thoughts).			
Slots	Barry: The annual Geminid meteor shower should be visible late at night on 13 and 14 Dec. Up to 120 meteors per hour should be visible at its peak  Dennis: (1) Wenche was hit by a car at the traffic circle at Muizenberg beach. No breakages, but bruised and sore.  (2) 13 Dec. is 'Solidarity Day' in Norway, where students get paid for jobs done and donate these funds to charity. A message of acknowledgement was sent to Solveig Kalstad, Principal of Haugaland College.			
Member's Moment	String announced that he imbibed no alcohol at all yesterday. The only side effect was waking at 02.00 this morning and unable to get back to sleep. This is a sign not to attempt such foolishness again			
PARTY!!!	Sergeant Mike barely managed to control the unruly state of the rest of the evening. On second thoughts, HE was the perpetrator!  After many 'one-liners', a general knowledge quiz, a Christmas Word Scramble, an excellent 3-course dinner, a 'Secret Santa' present swapping and a lot of mince pies, the revellers were final allowed to go home.  Full marks to Keela, Biffy and helpers for all the party arrangements; and a big hand was given to the staff at Palm House for a year's efficient hospitality.			
Swindle	R850 was up for grabs, but Mike could only find the Ace of clubs. The R25 attendance prize went to Barbara.			
President's Pearls	Pres. Biffy was so chuffed with the Global Grant news from D5170 (above), that she had nothing further to say! However watch this space			

	January			
Duty	10	17	24	31
Duty Roster				SOCIAL
Sergeant	Todd	Cleveland	Jackson	
Wynpress Editorial	Bayes	Bird	Bredenkamp	
Wynpress Minutes	Howard	Bredenkamp	Cleveland	
Door Duty	Bonga	Dietrich	Gowdy	
Grace	O'Driscoll	Overbosch	Schonegevel J	
Loyal Toast	Schreiber	Smith	Thomas	
International Toast	Thomas	Todd	Van Niekerk	
Speaker Intro and Thanks	Cleveland	ТВА	ТВА	
Entertainment for the month	Barnard, Bayes, Gowdy, Thomas, Schonegevel R			

Dates To Diarise		
10 January	Richard Cock – Musical Anecdotes	
17 January	TBA	
24 January	ТВА	
31 January	TBA	
7 February	ТВА	
10 February	Opera Lite @ Marist (Kromboom Rotary Club)	

# AFTER 2018, QUO VADIS?

2018 has been a tumultuous year, but psychologically a new year brings with it prospects of renewal and regeneration. We can only hope that 2019 will restore calm to the chaos.

Two important events mark the coming year, both of them in May.

One is the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our democracy and the other is the national election.

South Africa is inherently a land of wealth and goodwill and in the midst of all the current furore we overlook the essential beauty and humanity of our society.

It is time for us to refocus our vision, strengthen the positive and minimize the negative.

# **Tailpiece**

In the UK, some supermarkets have admitted that there is horse meat in their home cooked hamburgers.

Even places like Burger King have had to admit that there are "small amounts" of horse meat in their burgers.

Tesco is a big supermarket chain in the UK, and within hours of the news that their 'all beef hamburgers' contained 30% horse meat, these quips hit the Internet:

"I'm so hungry, I could eat a horse. I guess Tesco just listened!"

Anyone want a burger from Tesco? Yay or neigh?

Not entirely sure how Tesco are going to get over this hurdle

Waitress in Tesco asked if I wanted anything on my burger. So I had £5 each way!

Had some burgers from Tesco for my tea last night, I still have a bit between my teeth.

A woman has been taken into hospital after eating horse meat burgers from Tesco. Her condition is said to be stable.

"I've just checked the Tesco burgers in my freezer, "AND THEY'RE OFF!"

Tesco now forced to deny the presence of zebra in burgers, as shoppers confuse barcodes for serving suggestions.

Said to the missus, "These Tesco burgers give me the trots...

"To beef or not to beef, that is equestrian".

A cow walks into a bar. Barman says, "Why the long face?"

Cow says "Illegal ingredients, coming over here stealing our jobs!"

I hear the smaller version of those Tesco burgers make great horse d'oeuvres.

These Tesco burger jokes are going on a bit...Talk about flogging a dead horse.

Since they're selling the meat wrapped in plastic, is that technically a "Trojan Horse?"

Instead of choosing "rare, medium or well done, it's now Win, Place or Show"

At first, I thought, "Oh great, I've been saddled with another email to forward, but something spurred me on."