

Im-POSSIBLE!

Our very own Mbuyelo Coal COO, Kurhula Bilankulu, does not mess around when it comes to goals- personal and otherwise. In a mindboggling interview with Bilankulu, he had the following to share:

Moleboheng: Lets chat! How long have you been doing the Comrades Marathon?

Bilankulu: I did my first Comrades in 2022, so this is my second Comrades. I have been doing other marathons in between too, such as Two Oceans, the Chicago Marathon, Berlin Marathon and many other local marathons...nothing lower than 42kms of course! *laughs*

M: You are looking your absolute best physically! Would you advise running as a form of exercise?

B: Yes, definitely! Anyone blessed with the ability to walk can run. I would advise a structured program though to avoid any injuries and disappointments. Running and keeping your eye on your diet will get you FAR.

M: What is the furthest you have run?

B: 89kms in the Comrades' down-run is the longest distance I have covered. I prepare for the Comrades with other marathons that come before throughout the year. I live a structured life where I have planned all the marathons I would join for the year from when the year starts. For example, I would run 60km a weekend preparing for a marathon such as the Comrades...

M: This takes a lot of discipline...it's a mind game too?!

B: Definitely. You need to choose to rest your body in preparation for your run over long nights with friends sometimes. You will have to make some sacrifices.

M: I bet your family gives you plenty of support?

B: They do, my wife-brother-friends all give me tons of support. We make plans for them to meet me at halfway points and the finish line. I doubt I will ever stop running as long as my legs will carry me. It has become my lifestyle.

After this chat with Bilankulu, it is clear that anything we put our minds to, is possible. If you know where he comes from, this a real eye-opener to see the chap he has become today. Not only did he go from 102kg to 73kg, he is a completely different individual filled with zest for life, determination and positivity.

M: How has this marathon-running lifestyle improved the efficiency in your work space...in your daily job?

B: yoh - work has been a phenomenal experience for me since! My body has improved and can carry me through my work. I have more energy...overall, I can think straight and perform my duties more efficiently.

We share stories such as these, so you use them and let people like Bilankulu become your motivation for the year or if you simply need one to make it through the day. NOTHING is impossible!

Thank you for letting us into your personal life and for being an exemplary leader for the whole group.



Kudos to you Bila!



Mbuyelo has received appreciation notes from three former bursary students that were funded by Mbuyelo Mining Contractors. They graduated this year.

Graduate one is a Law student, **Kagisho Thobejane**. She graduated from the University of Cape Town and wrote:



I just want to say thank you for your extraordinary generosity and support. Your commitment to paying for my fees, books, and essential needs has been a profound blessing in my life. Thanks to your bursary award, I have been able to pursue my dream of becoming a lawyer; a goal that seemed out of reach as my parents were not able to afford the necessary expenses...I am forever thankful for the opportunity you have given me to pursue my passion for law.



Next, is **Phillip Mnisi** who finished his Honours in **Mechanical Engineering** at the University of Johannesburg who said:

"I am writing to express my heartfelt appreciation to Mbuyelo for the invaluable support and sponsorship provided throughout my pursuit of a BengTechHons in Mechanical Engineering at the University of Johannesburg. Your unwavering commitment to nurturing the education of aspiring engineers like myself has been instrumental in shaping my academic journey. I am thrilled to share that I have successfully completed my program and have obtained my BengTechHons in Mechanical Engineering. This achievement wouldn't have been possible without the generous support and belief in my potential that Mbuyelo has demonstrated..."



Lepara Ntsoane who didn't hold back tears when he said:

"...the CTA results have been released just now and I'm so grateful for the support that you gave me at Mbuyelo. I'll be able to achieve my dreams because of your support!"

Lepara completed his Advanced Diploma in Accountancy at the University of Johannesburg.



MMC recruited 6 graduates this year in February and placed them at various departments (-Mining, HR, Safety, Geology and Environmental). This is a 24-month programme.

These candidates are only a drop in the ocean of people that Mbuyelo has made changes in their lives, through paving their way by empowering them with the tool of education or just giving them an opportunity. No wonder Mbuyelo is recognised as the best company one could work for, by far!



And last but not least, Cassandra Mashele, Safety Intern, attended Coal Safe 2024 in Kempton Park, Johannesburg on the 9th May as part of her exposure.



Manungu keeps at it through the chills

Manungu was not daunted by the cold winter of 2024. They got into gear with amazingly warm initiatives.

The mine donated 40 Blankets and Food hampers to surrounding farms of:

- Kgapamadi Farm
- Schoeman Farm
- Keraneni Farm
- Wolvefontein farm.



Then they proceeded to donate a further 60 Blankets and Food hampers to Old Age Homes in the Delmas Townships of:

- Botleng Society For The Aged ,
- Delpark Old Age Home
- Sizimele Old Age



The season stops no one at Manungu. The mine has sponsored branding and transportation for two-away games to Botleng United Ladies FC. Ladies in Soccer...this is inspirational!



Manungu got to benefit from their generous hand as a total of eight job opportunities have been created to facilitate skill transfer.

By the way, the Small Enterprise Development initiatives awarded the project to an emerging company from Wolvefontein farm (the host community).

Brrrrrrrrrrrrrr-iliant
one Manungu!



Khashani supports the sports

Khashani Colliery donated four soccer and netball kits to the Thubelihle community in Kriel for their planned June 16 sporting activities. This humble request came from the Ga-Nala Steering Committee.

A charming letter from the centre made its way to the mine on the 19th of June 2024, gushing with appreciation for the goodwill gesture.



Ntshovelo Safety Milestone

Congrats!

Congratulations to all and the Safety Department on the achievement of 8 400 Fatality Free Production Shifts as at mid-June.

Bravo!





Ntimeni grows its own

Human Resource Development-Bursary Programme

Lindiwe Ncube, a creditors clerk at Ntimeni Colliery, has successfully obtained her Diploma in Financial Management. She has further enrolled for an Advanced Diploma in a Financial Management program to further her education - all thanks to Ntimeni's continued commitment to support academic growth and development of its employees.