



RAM Cape Town keep on walking



Proudly RAM Cape Town!



Emily (Jessica's friend) and Jessica Leite

In November 2010, 62 enthusiastic RAM Cape Town employees and family members turned out in red and white, for the 10km Discovery Cape Times Big Walk. The RAM team joined the throngs of walkers gathered at the Grand Parade in the city centre, for the official start of the walk at 07h30.

Ten, nine, eight... one and the gun signalled the start of the walk, with the RAM team forging through the crowd to set their pace. Team supporters waiting at the halfway mark saw Team RAM approaching from way off, the red and white swarm could not be missed. Energades and bananas provided a welcome relief to weary walkers who needed the sustenance to continue on their way.

The sunshine and windy conditions were quite a challenge for walkers, but they persevered and every RAM walker made it across the finish line to receive their well-deserved medals, resulting in smiles all round.

"On Monday morning, there were plenty of sore muscles and blisters, but the smiles had not faded. We are PROUDLY RAM Cape Town, and we look forward to the next walk," says Landi Leite, RAM Big Walk organiser.



The first bunch that came over the finishing line...



Connor Leite – guarding the bananas...

RAM Witbank win GOLD



Left to right: Wandile Ndlovu, Eli Matji, Hemilton Mamase, Tebogo Mokhothu and Patrick Ndiniso

RAM Witbank entered a team into the annual Rotary Greatest Train Race to build team spirit and attract potential clients. Teams were made up of five runners or three walkers who pegged their efforts against a steam train that travels from Witbank to Middelburg.

RAM Witbank showed their mettle by networking with other participating companies including BHP Billiton, Eskom and Anglo American who had a strong presence at both the start and the finish lines.

Not only did RAM Witbank use the event to network, but they showed the other participating teams what they were made of, by winning gold medals.

“Thank you to the RAM Directors for allowing us the opportunity to participate in the race, to Aurora and Jonathan for the t-shirts and to Jody for making branding banners available to us. A big high five to everyone who made it possible for us to get the RAM name out there,” says Alfred Motaung, RAM Witbank Branch Manager.

RAM Durban employees have huge hearts

RAM Durban never forgets those less fortunate than themselves. They have built up ongoing relationships with various charity organisations, which have become reliant on the donations that RAM Durban so readily contribute to them.

Recently RAM Durban made a significant donation of basic groceries to the St Thomas Home for Children, who are always in need of assistance. In a letter of thanks to RAM Durban, the principal of the home, Jessica McKay, sums up what RAM’s contributions mean to them, “I wish to express our sincere thanks and gratitude to you... and for offering such amazing support to us for all you have done and are doing to impact the lives of our children.”



At Christmas time, RAM Durban sent out a request to all RAM branches challenging them to make contributions, which would make Christmas a little brighter for a severely handicapped child called Lynton. RAM came to the party and RAM Durban Branch Manager, Mohammed Nizame, would like to thank everyone for their support. RAM Durban received a very humbling handwritten letter of thanks from Lynton’s family: “You are the reason for the smile on Lynton’s face....”

The initiative to make a difference in the lives of those less fortunate was founded by Mohammed, he proudly comments: “The continued success of this initiative may solely be attributed to the giving nature of the employees, and I applaud them and thank them for their enthusiasm and unselfish participation.”



Hein shooting his way into the Springbok team

RAM's own sharpshooter, PE Branch Manager, Hein Dance, has an exciting year of shooting ahead of him.

Hein competed in the National Championships in Klerksdorp in October last year and after spending two days completing fifteen stages and using 320 rounds of ammunition, competing against 103 shooters in the standard gun class, he achieved a very impressive fifth place overall.

Hein will be competing in the last Springbok team qualifying national event, held in Polokwane in March, where the bar will be raised. The event will take place over three days, with 24 stages to be completed and no less than 450 rounds of ammunition will be required. "This is going to be very challenging," says Hein. "It is important for me to prepare myself mentally and physically, as I will be competing from 08h00 to 17h00 every day, and the aim

of my game is to hit every target in the quickest time," adds Hein.

Hein is currently in fifth place on the South African log, but needs to move into fourth position to qualify for his Springbok colours. Hein has been shooting for sixteen years and for the last six years he has maintained his position in the top eight shooters in SA. Hein is determined to achieve his Springbok colours and in his own words says, "As a Springbok I want to represent not just South Africa, but RAM Hand-to-Hand Couriers as well!"

RAM News wishes Hein every success for the upcoming National competition; we are holding thumbs for those Bok colours.



RAM Isando admin respond to plea for help

Late last year a RAM employee heard a media plea for donations from The Lighthouse Baby Shelter and decided to extend the call for help to all RAM Isando admin employees.

"We called up the baby shelter, and they gave us a list of their immediate requirements needed for the care of the babies. The admin department was allocated with a shopping list, and all employees generously bought items to contribute to the donation," says Lee-Ann Suffield on behalf of RAM Isando Admin department.

"Our aim is to identify a needy cause every four months and do what we can to assist them. We would ideally like to encourage all RAM branches to join this initiative and formalise a RAM charity that goes the extra mile to assist people in need in our communities," adds Lee-Ann.

It is encouraging to see that RAM employees take the initiative to help those less fortunate than themselves.

RAM has an “Incredible Connection”

Going the extra mile earns RAM an award



RAM Hand-to-Hand Couriers are the proud recipients of the 2010 Incredible Connection Appreciation Award, awarded for outstanding service and devotion around the opening of the new Incredible Connection DC – given the drastic reduction of courier stock losses.

Well done RAM employees, and thank you to everyone who was instrumental in offering Incredible Connection the support and top service that we expect at RAM.

Customer satisfaction is our priority

When a customer goes the extra mile to acknowledge our service, it needs to be shared. This letter was received from Foto Distributors who were rated Incredible Connection's no. 1 Supplier for 2010.

Dear JP and Team

May I take this opportunity to thank you and your team at RAM for the superb service, help and support you have offered to Foto Distributors. Thank you for going beyond the call of duty and getting the job done. I have never worked with such a competent courier company.

We have been rated as Incredible Connection's no.1 Supplier for 2010. That was made possible by partnering with the BEST courier in SA.

Secondly, may I say thank you for advising me to use RAM in-house. I was skeptical in the beginning and only wanted to have the best in-house. Wow, Megan Pillay is the best and a joy to work with. Always on time, never minds working late, always helpful, thinks on her feet, extremely productive and she has a fantastic personality.

It makes me extremely proud to partner with a courier company that carries the same service values as we do.

Nikon thanks you sincerely.

Bertus Watkins

Warehouse and Systems Manager

Megan Pillay is a shining example of a true RAM employee, thank you to Megan for going the extra mile for delivering a truly “RAM” customer experience to our valued clients.

RAM supports JAG AllStars

The JAG Foundation was founded in 2007 and is spearheaded by ex-Olympic athlete, Elana Meyer. The Foundation aims to engage children from disadvantaged communities in mentoring, coaching and organised physical activity programmes. All in the hope that their attention is redirected away from alcohol, drugs and criminal behavior, towards the alternative: a better, healthier life where they are taught values to enhance their self-esteem, self-discipline, goals, focus and sportsmanship, which provides them with the hope to escape their surroundings.

RAM have pledged their support through the provision of complimentary courier services for the JAG AllStars supporters club, which invites the South African public to join top sporting personalities such as Makhaya Ntini, Ryk Neethling and Lance Armstrong to help inspire and encourage South Africa's youth through pledges, sponsorships or assistance in varying forms.

“It is with thanks to the Foundation and the generous contribution from our supporters, that the dreams of underprivileged children now have a fighting chance of becoming a reality,”

comments Elana Meyer, JAG's CEO.

Pat on the back for Polokwane RAM staff

“2010 was a long hard year for RAM Polokwane. We shared both good and bad moments but overall the hub has grown from strength to strength, and we came out smiling and grateful to be employees of the RAM Group,” says Abel Mahlangu, Branch Manager of RAM Polokwane.

“I would like to thank Mr. and Mrs. Du Preez for the support they have given me, and for never giving up on me. In addition, I would like to acknowledge the RAM Polokwane employees who went the extra mile, and thank them for their hard work and dedication. As a token of our appreciation to them, they were rewarded with airtime vouchers,” adds Abel.



RAM employees receive airtime vouchers as a vote of thanks.

Back Left to Right: Elijah Ngobeni, Frans Serumula, Robert Mabasa, Prince Khumalo, Carel Venter and Victor Raborife
Front Left to Right: Jeremia Makgahlela, Danis Thantsha, Tlou Mathatho, Mashilo Tsiri, Makwena Mokgohloa and Frans Mbathaww



These employees were acknowledged for a job well done as voted by fellow employees. Well done to Peter, Jacob & Calvin.

Left to Right: Peter Mogaramedi, Jacob Mogoboya and Calvin Sebattjane

RAM'ing for over 10 years



Coenie Van Zyl
Cape Town



Johannes Machaba
Isando



Morris Motaung
Isando



Ian Freeman
Isando



Makwena Mapinga
Polokwane



Kevin Julius
Cape Town



Anil Maganlal
Isando



Jabulisa Msweli
Isando



Dian Zwane
Isando



Lance Soller
Isando



Neil Shunmugam
Isando



Redford Kisten
Durban



Xavier Allamby
Isando



Brett Nortje
Botswana

News from Autism South Africa

NEWS FROM
AUTISM SOUTH
AFRICA



Mr Lazarus, all involved with Autism South Africa would like to express their sincere gratitude to you for your meaningful assistance in 2010. Your support was instrumental in making last year a truly significant year with regard to expansion of services to address the needs of our beneficiaries. Thank you.

RAM to the Rescue!



The DG Murray Trust provided R156 000 and Toys R Us donated R62 500 enabling us to print 2 000 copies each of 12 very informative brochures. To ensure that within one month 22 000 of these brochures arrived in the hands of people across South Africa, Ram Hand-to-Hand Couriers fully sponsored the delivery of close to 100 boxes to all corners of our vast country.



In 2010, The Els for Autism Foundation invited Autism South Africa to become partners in creating services for children with autism in South Africa.

As a result of Ernie and Liesl Els' loyal friends, an exceptionally successful "Els for Autism Pro-Am" took place on 20 December 2010 at The Hyatt Regency Oubaii Golf Resort & Spa, that has enabled the creation of an "Els for Autism Computer Learning Centre" at the offices of Autism South Africa.

Autism South Africa expresses their heartfelt gratitude and sincere appreciation to the **National Lottery Distribution Trust Fund** for their phenomenal support for children and adults with autism across South Africa.

The NLDTF has provided meaningful financial support to the majority of autism-specific services around the country.



International studies imply that 1 in 110 children born will develop Autism. In South Africa that equates to 7 665 Autistic children born in 2011, or 23 per day.

Therefore EVERY HOUR a child with Autism will be born in South Africa.

The Els for Autism Computer Learning Centre provides FREE access to a research based, highly effective online learning and development programme called "Rethink Autism" with one-on-one guidance from a trained professional for lower resourced families with children on the autism spectrum. The programme, along with the support and guidance of the Facilitator, empowers parents with the knowledge and the base to bring Autism-specific intervention into the home.



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New hands at the RAM wheel



Tyrone Potgieter
Network Engineer, RAM Isando



Savena Chetty
Receptionist, RAM Durban

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| 1. What's your favourite food? | An old-aged 500g medium rump steak, onion rings, potato chips and a full bodied red wine. All served by a professional Israeli waitress who has the time to pick out the sharpest steak knife for me. | Chicken and prawn curry. |
| 2. What book are you currently reading? | I'm not. | <i>Remembrance</i> by Danielle Steel. |
| 3. Your favourite television programme? | Revealing cryptic history documentaries surrounding WW2. | Desperate Housewives. |
| 4. Your favourite music/band? | Modern rock balanced with leather lounge blues. | 80's |
| 5. You're stranded on a desert island, what two things do you need to survive? | The Israeli waitress and the steak. I don't need the knife. I can eat steak with clean hands if I have to. | A copy of Cosmo and a good bottle of wine. |
| 6. If you could invite any six people in the world to dinner, who would they be? | The Israeli waitress, and my five alter-egos. | Mahatma Gandhi, Mother Teresa, Nelson Mandela, Michael Jackson, Oprah Winfrey, Desmond Tutu. |
| 7. Where is your ideal holiday destination? | Eilat - Israel, where Israeli women live, and where the most gorgeous coral reef fish are located! | Greece. |
| 8. Any pet hates? | Lovesick adult dogs cause me to compromise my hatred for snob cats. | Don't have any. |
| 9. What one word describes you? | Supercalifragilisticexpialidocious <small>The roots of the word have been defined as follows: super- "above", cali- "beauty" fragilistic- "delicate", expiali- "to atone", and docious- "educable", with the sum of these parts signifying roughly "Atoning for educability through delicate beauty."</small> | Compassionate. |
| 10. What are your passions? | Battle wounds become battle scars that will prove to be battle medals! | Animals – helping and caring for them. |
| 11. What do you do on weekends? | I reflect, prepare, and rest with as much quiet time as possible. It is the only way a soldier will learn from his mistakes, to be able to lead a platoon safely through the next battle. | Spend time with my family and friends as well as my beautiful dog Fifi. |

New hands at the RAM wheel



Charlotte Van As
Sales Executive, RAM Cape Town



Lize Arnott
Group Manager, HR
RAM Isando



Cindy Venter
Sales Representative
RAM Cape Town

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|---|---|---|
| Sushi. | Curry and rice. | Sushi. |
| <i>How to bring up boys</i> (I have two toddler boys). | <i>How to hear from God</i> by Joyce Meyer. | Not reading one at the moment. |
| Desperate Housewives (don't get to watch much as I have a husband who is soccer and cricket mad). | TV! I last watched TV in 2004 before my eldest son was born! Hannah Montana, Jonas Brothers and Ben 10, take your pick. | How I met your Mother. |
| I enjoy all music. | Era. | Anything but rap and heavy metal. |
| Water and Fish. | According to my husband, my cell phone and a packet of Simba chips. Seriously, my bible and a proper pillow. | Water and a blanket. |
| Nelson Mandela, Richard Branson, Donald Trump, Raymond Ackerman, Sir Alex Ferguson and David Beckham. | Jamie Oliver, for the cooking; Steve Hofmeyer and Julius Malema for a good laugh; Enrique Iglesias for the music; Veronica, my right hand, to do the dishes and George Clooney. | Oprah Winfrey, Cameron Diaz, Morgan Freeman and my parents. |
| Italy and Greece, Rhodes Island (I've been to Greece). | Europe in the festive season, but I will settle for the bushveld. | Maldives. |
| When someone chews with their mouth open – bad manners in general. | Being forced to watch Discovery Channel on a Friday night! | Disrespectful people. |
| Ambitious. | Impatient. | Bubbly. |
| To be successful. | Photography and children with disabilities. | To live life to the fullest. |
| Spend it with my family (husband, mother-in-law, stepdaughter and my two toddler boys) | Run between junior rugby and golf games. | Socialise with friends, go for walks and try to relax. |