

The INSURER

YOUR SAFIRE NEWSLETTER

March 2011



Taking on the Argus

Sean Stanton, Safire's Financial Director, recently took part in his maiden Argus bicycle race (full title the Cape Argus Pick n Pay Cycle Tour). He says, "The event was really special this year as there was no wind to speak of and the skies were clear and bright, apart from a refreshing mist that came in early off the sea. 'Chappies' and Suikerbossie were as tough as everyone makes out and I am especially grateful to Sean Jackson's cramp-stop tablets for getting me up those two little bumps and over the finish line! I will definitely be back again next year."

Sean's time in the saddle was a draining 3h21mins and his ride started fittingly in "S" batch (for Safire or Sean or both?). The overall winner was Tyler Day in 02:32:10 and the first lady home was Cherise Taylor in 02:49:45. For those wanting a real challenge – the oldest folk home were Walter Hein (a staggering 88 years old), and Marie-Louise Swoboda (a spring chicken at 75).



Sean Stanton takes on the Argus!

Renewals are due

Just a reminder that the Crop and Sugar Cane Insurance renewal date is 1 April, and all relevant documents need to be returned to us by 15 April 2011. The deadline for Plantation Renewal Proposals is 1 May 2011. Please make sure we receive these renewals to ensure that cover continues.

Welcome aboard

Welcome to Brett Hammond, who has joined Multiline's IT department. Also hello to Michelle Dewing and Kristin Myburgh who have joined the Safire Claims department.



From left to right: Brett, Michelle and Kristen.

Economic Tidbits This Month

- \$100 billion - estimated total damage caused by the Japanese earthquake, tsunami, and fires.
- \$15-35 billion - the losses that could be covered by insurance according to AIR Worldwide. [Read more here.](#)
- 14-17% - how many Japanese homeowners have earthquake insurance.
- R8bn - the accounting loss Old Mutual will have taken after the sale of its US Life business. [Read more here.](#)
- Up to 20% and 10% less - what women and men will pay respectively on premiums under gender discrimination laws in the EU, which now bar offering different rates according to gender. [Read more here.](#)
- 5% - percentage that Africa's premium insurance income (excluding South Africa) of US\$12,3bn in 2009, makes up of the \$250bn total in emerging markets. [Read more here.](#)
- R4.5 million - alleged fraudulent insurance claim made by Czech fugitive and local underworld figure, Radovan Krejcir, in which he obtained fake medical papers claiming he had cancer. [Read more here.](#)

Wedding bells!

Gavin Myburgh, Multiline Claims Manager, was married on 12th March to Brenda Lee Mitchell at Savannah Estate in Pietermaritzburg. Congratulations to you both!



Gavin and Brenda on their wedding day.

A new face for Bloemfontein

David Wise has just joined Safire in the Bloemfontein office. He has spent 17 years in the short-term insurance industry, and says that, "I am very excited to be part of the team as Safire are a dynamic company with great people." David is married to Adel, and they have a 5-year old daughter. Welcome aboard David!



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