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### Back-to-school

### Later inland schools re-opening means slower start for sales

**Khalid Anwary**, Anwary's

**Butha-Buthe, Lesotho** – Back to school has been very good. We had all our school stocks delivered in December. Customers are happy to get what they need for back to school.

**Chris van den Berg**, Burgers Brothers cc

**Johannesburg, Gauteng, SA** – It's been a slow start, but Gauteng schools are only going back on the 17th, which is a week later than normal, and people are probably waiting till later.

**Manesh Naran**, City Fashions Schoolwear

**Lenasia, Gauteng, SA** – The trade this past week has been steady. As schools are opening on the 17th January (as opposed to previous years, when schools opened on the 8th or 9th January) we anticipate that we will not have the frenzied rush as experienced in previous years.

**Faizal Hajat**, Economic Outfitters

**Johannesburg, Gauteng, SA** – The Back 2 School 2024 season has been a slow start...most clients probably waiting to purchase next week.

**Jannie Vermeulen**, Ekspa/Adno's

**Benoni/Brakpan, Gauteng, SA** – It's a bit slower than usual because of the later start, but so far very good. Some of my stock was a bit late because of the problems in the harbours, but it hasn't been a big issue.

**APLF LEATHER**  
19 - 21 MARCH 2024  
HONG KONG

### They Said It

*"the whining school-boy with his satchel  
And shining morning face, creeping like a snail  
Unwillingly to school."* - William Shakespeare, from The Seven Ages of Man.

### New subscribers last week

**Chante**, Librarian Data Analyst, Novus Group, Germiston, Gauteng, South Africa  
**Hlengiwe Mfekayi** Izindlazombili Trading, Mtubatuba, South Africa

### Got anything you'd like to share?

Do you have any suggestions, comments or experiences about the industry that you'd like to share with the industry? - [tony@svmag.co.za](mailto:tony@svmag.co.za)

### Birthdays this week

08/01/1944: **Kishor Mistry**, Shoe Junxion, Sasolburg, Free State, SA.  
08/01/1972: **Imtiaz Butler**, agent, Durban, KZN, SA.  
09/01/1962: **Ming-Ter Tso**, Mingfay International Trade, Johannesburg, Gauteng, SA.  
10/01/1947: **Pieter de Villiers**, Shoes & Do's, Pretoria, Gauteng, SA.  
10/01/1955: **HR Hassim**, Suliman Jooma & Son, Pretoria, Gauteng, SA.  
10/01/1980: **Edward Althorpe**, commission agent, East London, E. Cape, SA.  
10/01/1982: **Arnold Britten**, Zambezi Tanners, Bulawayo, Zimbabwe.  
11/01/1954: **Dilip Merchant**, Merchant's Outfitters, Port Elizabeth, E. Cape, SA.  
11/01/1958: **Michael Prinsloo**, Shoelettes, Cape Town, W. Cape, SA.  
12/01/1954: **Dave Nagle**, agent, Port Elizabeth, E. Cape, SA.  
12/01/1956: **Melanie Thompson**, Little Slipper Co., Port Elizabeth, E. Cape, SA.  
12/01/1963: **Anton de Wet**, Intershu, Cape Town, W. Cape, SA.  
12/01/1969: **Lenny Moodley**, The Little Slipper Co., Port Elizabeth, E. Cape, SA.  
13/01/1958: **Dr Karl-Rudolf Gassen**, Lanxess SA, Johannesburg, Gauteng, SA.  
13/01/1956: **Farhad Fakir**, Tasmu Agencies, Johannesburg, Gauteng, SA.  
14/01/????: **Sylvia De Gouveia**, Fashion Centre, Kroonstad, Free State, SA.  
14/01/1947: **Billy Robinson**, retired, formerly Billy Bob Trading [closed], Durban, KZN, SA, now in Australia.

### In memoriam this week

09/01/2021: **Elaine Coy** (b. 30/10/1951), Afro Leather, Johannesburg, Gauteng, SA.  
09/01/2022: **Ron MacNiven** (b. 24/09/1944), Bata Zimbabwe, Decofurn, Durban, KZN, SA.  
09/01/2023: **Anthony Pearce** (b. 31/05/1954), Woods Tanning, Uitenhage, E. Cape, SA. Formerly Swartland Tanning and Gringo Leather.  
13/01/2021: **Rajen Pillay**, SOP Trading, Durban, KZN, SA.  
13/01/2022: **Dan Naidoo** (b. 24/01/1937), Togo Shoes, Pietermaritzburg, KZN, SA.  
14/01/2004: **Louis Nossel** (b. 01/12/1931), Dolltown Shoes [closed], Pinetown, KZN, SA.  
14/01/2017: **Donald Taisekwa Mandirahwe** (b. 29/09/1942), Cathula Sandals [closed], Harare, Zimbabwe.  
14/01/2021: **Beeval Kantilal Naran** (b. 28/03/1966), Captain Jacob Shoes & Bag Repairs, Bulawayo, Zimbabwe.

Have you let us know about your birthday, or the birthdays of your colleagues? Our readers love this section, so please become part of it. This also applies to the In Memoriam section. Help us remember former colleagues.

**Trade Fairs** **Seminars**  
**Conferences**  
**Range Launches**

Do you have an event you want listed in the calendar?  
Email [tony@svmag.co.za](mailto:tony@svmag.co.za)

No charge for associations, R199 + Vat for all others

JAN 2024						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13 Expo Riv...
14 Expo Riv...	15 Expo Riv...	16 Expo Riv...	17	18	19	20 Whos Ne...
21 Whos Ne...	22 Whos Ne...	23 Couromo...	24 Couromo...	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

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### Exchange rates

Note: For previous rates, see [HERE](#)

1. SA Rand (ZAR)/Lesotho Loti (LSL)/Namibian Dollar (NAD)/Swazi Lilangeni (SZL)

Source: <http://www.x-rates.com/calculator/>

	Euro €	GBP £	US \$	CNY ¥
02/01/2024	R20.30	R23.42	R18.54	R2.60
06/01/2024	R20.45	R23.77	R18.68	R2.61

2. Botswana Pula (BWP)

Source: <https://www.xe.com/currencyconverter/>

	Euro €	GBP £	US \$	CNY ¥
02/01/2024	14.66	16.91	13.39	1.88
06/01/2024	14.78	17.19	13.51	1.89

3. Malawian Kwacha (MWK)

Source: <https://www.xe.com/currencyconverter/>

	Euro €	GBP £	US \$	CNY ¥
02/01/2024	1842.68	2127.05	1684.47	236.23
06/01/2024	1842.27	2141.49	1683.45	235.88

4. Zambian Kwacha (ZMW)

Source: <https://www.xe.com/currencyconverter/>

	Euro €	GBP £	US \$	CNY ¥
02/01/2024	28.15	32.51	25.75	3.61
06/01/2024	28.29	32.88	25.85	3.62

5. Zimbabwean Dollar (ZWL\$)

Source: <https://www.xe.com/currencyconverter/>

	Euro €	GBP £	US \$	CNY ¥	Official US\$
02/01/2024	6539.87	7538.38	5967.98	837.37	6281.79
06/01/2024	7031.64	8173.71	6425.45	900.25	6443.13

Note: For previous rates, see [HERE](#)

### ABSA Agri Trends: Hides & skins prices

**Johannesburg, Gauteng, SA (14 December 2023)** - The average hide price decreased by 0.07% to R3.288/kg from R3.286/kg in the previous week. The current price is 0.23% higher than the average price a month ago and 21.3% lower than the average price a year ago. The range of prices reported was as follows: Minimum price: R3.25 Maximum price: R3.50. Please note: Our methodology weighs the prices we collect according to the number of hides they sell in a month. This is done to make it more representative of the prevailing market price. NB\* Hide prices are determined by the average of the RMAA (Red Meat Abattoir Association) and independent companies. - **Marlene Louw**, senior agricultural economist, and **Nkhensani Mashimbyi**, agricultural economist, and **Zama Sangweni**, agricultural economist, Absa group.

Note: For previous prices, see [HERE](#)

### Have a look at these links

We invite businesses to send us links to websites, Facebook pages and the like which they feel would be of interest to others. The links below are from our database:

[Halsted & Co. \(Pty\) Ltd](#), Kempton Park, Gauteng, SA. PPE distributor.  
[Haly's Fashion](#), Durban, KZN, SA. Men's and women's clothing and footwear

### Contact us

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Next newsletter: January 15, 2024.

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