

SOCIAL DRINKS

The first social drinks event of the year was held at the Maslow on 23 February and thanks again to **Austrade** for sponsoring. There was an excellent turn-out and a number of new guests also attended and new contacts made. So we are hoping to gain additional members from the event. We will keep you posted on when the next social drinks will be organized.

BUSINESS BREAKFAST – HERMAN MASHABA



Invites have already gone out but as a reminder, our next Business Breakfast will be with **Herman Mashaba**, the Mayor of Johannesburg on the **16 March** at **Hogan Lovells** on 22 Fredman Drive in Sandton. For those that have not RSVPed already, please go to <http://www.abcsafrica.org/component/eventbooking/abcsa-social-events/business-breakfast?Itemid=114>. The registration and breakfast will start at 7:15 followed by the presentation at 8 am until 9 am. The event is being kindly sponsored by **Bankserv** who will also give a brief overview about their company.



As previously mentioned **Nedbank** will be sponsoring another Business Breakfast on the **26th May** at their offices in Sandton. The speaker will be Nicky Weimer the Senior Economist from the Bank who will be giving the latest **economic forecast** on the local economy. Please pencil this date in and formal invites will follow closer to the time.

THE 2017 MINING INDABA & EXPORT CREDIT

The **Austrade** stand at the Mining Indaba in early February was well attended and the networking drinks session were a great success on both evenings. While at the stand, we made contact with **Efic**, the Australian Export Credit Bank which is a specialist financier delivering finance solutions in support of Australian companies active in frontier and emerging markets across **all business sectors**. The financial products offered by Efic include;



- Direct loans
- Export finance guarantees
- Bonding and guarantee facilities
- Political risk insurance
- Overseas direct investment
- Export payment insurance



Efic also provides considerable research on export activities. See www.efic.gov.au for more details. We also had discussions with the **Export Credit Insurance Corporation of South Africa (ECIC)** which is the South African Export Credit Agency who also attended the Austrade stand. The ECIC who play a similar role as Efic, provides export credit and foreign investment insurance cover to South African companies which want to export local capital goods or services outside of South Africa. This includes **political (100%) and commercial (up to 95%)** risk insurance cover. For more information see www.ecic.co.za. Basically both Efic and ECIC will provide business support to approved companies who intend to trade in Africa and the rest of the world. Our members are welcome to contact ECIC and Efic themselves for further information about business support or contact us at ABCSA.



EVENT SPONSORSHIP - AFL

One of our members, the **South African AFL** (Aussie Rules) are taking a team to the **International AFL** event in Melbourne, in August this year. The team receives sponsorship from the Australian AFL but still needs to raise further funds to the tune of R500,000 to cover the cost of the trip. They have a number of sponsorship packages available and interested parties can contact July Machethe at julym@afلسouthafrica.org or 071 428 5259. The event will be hosted over two weeks in Melbourne and Victoria with teams from 20 countries participating. The final will be played at the **MCG** as the curtain raiser to a **Collingwood Magpies vs Geelong Cats** game. The event will be receiving general TV coverage as well as considerable press and social media attention.



ABCSA offers a variety of event sponsorship opportunities to showcase your company's services and strengthen your corporate brand in the ABCSA business community. Sponsorship packages are available at various price points and can be fully tailored to suit your organisation's needs and requirements. If you have a specific idea about sponsorship and brand exposure or would like to do something out of the ordinary, please contact alison@abcsafrica.org

FROM OTHER CHAMBERS

In collaboration with the **German Business Chamber** and the **Council for Geoscience**, any of our members associated with the mining and minerals industry are invited to a Workshop on “**Investors and Procurement Guide South Africa**”. This will be held on **Tuesday 7 March** from 11 am to 4 pm at the Council for Geoscience building, 280 Pretoria St, Silverton, Pretoria. Attendance is free of charge and please RSVP to Christian Gevers on 11 486 2775 or cgevers@germanchamber.co.za. This work-shop will cover rare-earth metals, heavy mineral sands, antimony, fluorspar, chromite, PGEs, manganese, zinc and vanadium.

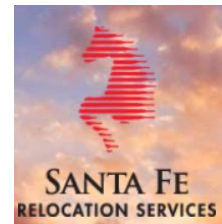
NEW MEMBERS

We would formally like to welcome two new members who joined the Chamber in January;

- **Edcon (Bernie Brookes)**
- **Ruth Lockwood – Santa Fe Relocations**



We would like to mention that Bernie Brookes, from Australia has been the Edcon CEO since late 2015. After leaving Myers in Australia he moved to South Africa to take the helm at Edcon. In January Bernie was awarded the **Order of Australia**, which is the principal and most



prestigious means of recognising outstanding members of the Australian community at a national level. Bernie received the award for “significant service to the retailing sector through leadership roles, to national and international business associations, and to the community”. Well done Bernie and best of luck to you and your team taking Edcon forwards.

THE CEO SLEEP-OUT



ABCSA will again be participating in the **CEO SleepOut** which will be held on the **22nd of June**. There are a number of supporting events planned around the main SleepOut during the month of June which can offer great net-working opportunities as well as the chance to contribute to the charitable causes benefiting from the campaign. To date the CEO SleepOut in South Africa has raised **R46 million** which has been donated to 134 entities. Further announcements will be made by the SleepOut team on 30 March. So please keep this event in mind and in your diaries.

WINE TASTING

The wine tasting that we previously mentioned for later in March has been pushed out to later in the year so as not to clog up the calendar. Further information will follow.