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MAIN STORY



he Ohlthaver & List (O&L) Group is set to expand its leisure portfolio from four to 10 establishments by 2029.

Key destinations such as Sossusvlei, Swakopmund, Etosha and others have already been identified for the expansion, with Windhoek and Brandberg also under consideration.

O&L Group Executive Chairman Sven Thieme told The Brief, the expansion will focus on providing authentic experiences at key destinations across Namibia.

"By 2029, we will expand the current

portfolio of four to 10. The strategy is in the pipeline at the moment, and the first

Crucial Dates

- Bank of Namibia Monetary Policy announcement date:
 16 October 2024
 4 December 2024
- Minister of Finance and Public Enterprises, Ipumbu Shiimi to deliver 2024/25 Mid-Year Budget Review on October 28, 2024.

properties will be executed soon—less than a year. We are not just looking to provide a bed, shower and breakfast, but to offer destinations worth experiencing," said Thieme.

The Chairman said O&L aims to offer unique experiences beyond traditional accommodation.

"On the leisure side, we have identified key destinations. We take our guests to places worth going, not just providing a bed, shower and breakfast. We aim to be authentic and offer a true experience when you come to us," Thieme added.

The planned expansion will require a significant financial investment.

Thieme outlined the budget needed

to bring the vision to life by 2029, noting that the group has already made substantial progress.

"The budget is around N\$1 billion for the overall 2029 vision. In the last three years, we have already spent N\$400 million. This expansion is a key part of our plans, and we are ready to materialise it," he said.

This expansion is part of O&L's broader Vision 2029 goals, which include positioning the company as a top global employer and ensuring business efficiency across its operations.

"The Vision 2029 for our leisure portfolio is part of the overall O&L vision. We want to achieve N\$2.5 million in EBIT, rank in the top 10 globally as a great place to work, and ensure all our businesses are efficient and competitive

worldwide. Our brand essence is key—when you arrive at any O&L property, you should immediately feel that unique O&L experience," Thieme explained.

Thieme hinted at further developments while remaining cautious about revealing too many details.

"Watch this space. We're keeping our cards close to the chest, but there's much more to come in terms of our leisure expansion and broader corporate vision," he said.

O&L Leisure is a subsidiary of the Ohlthaver & List (O&L) Group and its current portfolio includes Strand Hotel Swakopmund, Midgard, Mokuti Etosha, and Chobe Water Villas.





Small livestock exports plunge by 44.9% in Q2 2024

amibia's small livestock subsector experienced a sharp 44.9% decline in the number of animals marketed to export-approved abattoirs and butchers during the second quarter of 2024, the latest data shows.

According to the Namibia Statistics Agency (NSA), the decline in exports led to a marginal 0.3% contraction in the subsector, a

stark contrast to the 12.8% growth posted in the corresponding period of 2023.

"The livestock subsector recorded a marginal decline of 0.3% during the quarter under review compared to a growth of 12.8% posted during the corresponding quarter of 2023. This is due to a reduction in the number of small livestock marketed to export-approved abattoirs and butchers that



The livestock subsector recorded a marginal decline of 0.3% during the quarter under review compared to a growth of 12.8% posted during the corresponding quarter of 2023.

declined by 44.9% in the current quarter, compared to a growth of 6.8% recorded in the second quarter of 2023," said NSA.

In contrast to small livestock, slaughtering activities at abattoirs and butchers for cattle recorded an increase of 6.7% in the second quarter of 2024 relative to a higher growth of 35.4% recorded in the corresponding quarter of 2023.

"While the number of cattle exported live (on hoof) increased by 40.5%, relative to a decline of 3.9% posted in the corresponding quarter of the preceding year," the agency noted.

Furthermore, the number of small livestock exported live posted a growth of 14.8% during the quarter under review relative to an increase of 20.3% posted in the corresponding period of 2023.

Meanwhile, according to the Livestock and Livestock Products Board of Namibia in the second quarter of 2024, the sheep sector experienced growth, driven by live exports to South Africa.

A total of 310,481 sheep was marketed during the second quarter of 2024, a 10.9% increase from 279,816 in the second quarter of 2023.

"Despite a 3.0% drop in prices, sheep prices remained stable: lamb Dorper averaged N\$30.63/kg (down from N\$31.58/kg in 2023), while all-grade carcass prices averaged N\$47.26/kg and A2 carcass prices averaged N\$70.63/kg," the board said.

Year-to-date lamb and mutton exports fell by 21.0%, with a 34.8% decline in Q2 exports to South Africa, totalling 247,561kg compared to 379,858kg in 2023. Mutton imports also decreased by 23.4%.

Meanwhile, goat marketing remains heavily dominated by live exports to South Africa's Kwazulu-Natal province.

South Africa's share of Namibian goat exports decreased slightly from 97.9% in 2023 to 97.5% in Q2 2024.

"Overall goat marketing was slower, with 36,072 goats marketed during the period, bringing the year-to-date total to 60,514, a 5.1% decline. Goat lamb prices averaged N\$29.34/kg and peaked at N\$30.54/kg in June 2024," the Board said.





Unclaimed pension fund benefits drop to N\$218.7 million

he Namibia Financial Institutions Supervisory Authority (NAMFISA) says unclaimed pension fund benefits decreased to N\$218.7 million as of 31 December 2023, an improvement from the N\$229.1 million reported in the prior year.

According to the Authority's annual report

Georgette B.
Sakyi- Addo
FOUNDER AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF GEORGETTE BARNES LTD.

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for 2024, the decline reflects the successful tracing and payment of more beneficiaries during the reporting period.

"This is an encouraging movement observed in the reporting period, as it indicates that more members (or their dependents) whose pension fund membership ended without receiving their benefits were traced and paid," said NAMFISA.

This comes as the total benefits paid in 2023 increased by 6.6% to N\$12.3 billion, compared with the previous year.

"The growth in benefits correlates with continued withdrawals due to retirements and early withdrawals from members who resigned or were dismissed during the year. In addition, withdrawals due to retrenchments and deaths also contributed to the total benefits paid," said NAMFISA.

In addition, the Authority noted that retirement benefits paid continued to increase at rates higher than contributions, and the benefits paid out by the industry have been growing for the past five years.

The total contributions received increased by 0.9% to N\$10.0 billion for the year ended 31 December 2023, which is lower than the annual inflation rate of 5.7% reported for the previous period.

"The slow recovery in economic activity, which had an impact on employment and members' contributions during the year, resulted in contributions not rising at the same level as inflation during the year under review," said the report.

Meanwhile, the total retirement fund industry membership increased by 3.6% to 374,949 as of 31 December 2023, which comprised 348,895 active members and 39,508 pensioners.

"The increase in membership was due to new entrants into the sector owing to various factors such as additional employment and/or more employed persons being offered retirement benefits," said NAMFISA.

Assets and liabilities Pension fund assets increased by 15.2% to N\$237.1 billion in 2023, and current liabilities decreased by 3.2% to N\$2.6 billion as at 31 December 2023. "The decrease in current liabilities resulted from the lower benefits payable balance reported as at 31 December 2023. The active members' share account increased by 6.6% to N\$121.4 billion as at 31 December 2023, and the pensioner accounts





increased by 2.0% to N\$39.1 on the same date," noted NAMFISA.

Additionally, the amount in reserve accounts increased by 44.9% to N\$69.9 billion as at 31 December 2023.

"The change in active member and

pensioner accounts correlates with the increase in the value of reserve accounts reported for the 2023 year, as these amounts reflect movement increases in investment asset values that contributed to the increase in all the reserve types," said NAMFISA.





MODERNISING NAMIBIA'S FINANCIAL LANDSCAPE FOR A PROSPEROUS FUTURE

About the Lecture:

This lecture explores transformative steps taken to modernise Namibia's financial system since 2020 with a focus on enhancing financial inclusion, ensuring stability, and fostering sustainable economic growth.

With digital transformation upending traditional business models, the central bank is leading the charge through a future-fit legislative environment. This framework not only opens the door for innovators and key stakeholders to reimagine and transform Namibia's financial system but also ensures the continued stability and resilience of the system amid rapid change.

Looking into the future of the monetary system, the lecture will highlight the rise of digital currencies, Al, fast payment systems, open banking and other modes of payment that are changing the landscape and revolutionising Namibia's financial system.

About the Presenter:

Mr. Johannes !Gawaxab has been at the helm of the Bank of Namibia since 2020. With a wealth of experience in financial services, economics, and leadership roles across Africa and Europe, he has been instrumental in steering the Bank's efforts toward modernisation. His career spans highprofile roles in banking, investments, insurance, and more, including his leadership at Eos Capital and as Chairperson of several boards across the region. His deep understanding of Namibia's economic landscape makes him one of the most respected voices in the sector.







What's the plan with networking events?

By The Brand Guy

here's a caveat to this column. I am deeply introverted, so I am not a fan of company or industry events. Small talk drains me. My personal tactic is to allow extroverts to lead.

Ideally, I would like to see the extroverts consciously harness their characters to attain set objectives, but this can be a bit like herding cats.

When I attend an event, I focus my interactions on the professional side of things, with the goal of discussing work matters (if needed), fleshing out my understanding of the environment, building cordial relationships, getting leads and leaving as soon as my professional obligations are completed, and it is polite. I don't attend to discuss the drought, sports or who is well dressed. In other words, I go in with a plan.

Event management and attendance can cast a glamour. This much is evident from a scan of social media, particularly LinkedIn, where people vie for attention in a way that places the event and its purpose secondary to being seen. Yet the event comes with a high cost. How then to add value to the event?

The most obvious solution is to have a plan and a result at the outset.

A one-on-one meeting is an expense which asks for a result and accountability of both participants. As it is a meeting on a broader scale, the event should deliver a defined return. At this level the return should be quantitative. It won't be immediately measurable but should be

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Ideally, I would like to see the extroverts consciously harness their

characters to attain set objectives, but this can be a bit like herding cats.

tracked over about six to nine months. That will allow for assessments and decisions on subsequent events, and changes if the event is to become a regular fixture.

The basis for planning is tricky but could be along the lines I mentioned above: understanding the environment, cordial relationships and getting leads. Anything less is an informal party that can be conducted at home, or can be shifted to another budget, particularly the one-onone meetings budget.

Attendance and the guest list should be narrowly planned as well. Placement of guests on specific tables used to be part of the event discipline but seems to have fallen by the lazy wayside. I remember vividly working out who should sit with who, then making laborious table plans to guide people to their company for the evening.

Nowadays I have seen CEOs sitting by the door, unaccompanied by any representative of the host.

There will be two categories of guests:

firstly VIPs, stakeholders and influencers, and secondly guests who are the reason for the evening, for instance hot prospects or highly active clients.

The first category is the main attraction, probably identified by board, marketing and exco.

The second category is worth dwelling on. Exco should be able to identify what their social outcomes should be then assemble teams to identify guests and assign staff to those guests with specific outcomes in mind and clear objectives for each table

host.

One further word of advice. Assign value to your guests with your choices of food and beverages, not just the decor.

There is an obvious temptation to choose items for savings. Don't go cheap and do go smart. Check the wine online for reviews.

Bear in mind that many red meat selections will arrive at the table at lower than the temperature at the initial plating and may be tougher than a saddle as well. If your guest receives a good meal, attendance is likely to be repeated and an invitation more welcome.



VACANCY

The vacancy below is now available at Sinomine Tsumeb Smelter

Position: IT Service Desk Specialist

The incumbent will report to the **Manager: Service Desk & Delivery** and will be accountable for:

ROLE ACCOUNTABILITIES:

- ullet Ensure all Legal, Health, Safety and Environment standards and policies are adhered to.
- · Lead by example through compliance with the company purpose and values.
- Record all incoming calls and requests, ensuring capturing of all required information into the help Desk Incident Management Database.
- · Monitor user calls in progress and provide resolution.
- Identify, diagnose and troubleshoot computer and software issues to either solve directly or identify the appropriate IT solution.
- · Resolve problems using electronic tools, manuals and technical support documentation.
- \bullet Perform industrial systems and applications administration and ongoing maintenance.
- Drive infrastructure hardware lifecycle management hardware maintenance, capacity management and timely replacement.
- Identify problems with IT services requests, categorizes and describe user requests and ensure processes and procedures are adhered to.
- · Identify and suggest areas of improvement to the supervisor.
- · Supply second level technology support to end users and contractors.
- Provide training and information to end users to ensure understanding and compliance with safety protocols.

QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCE REQUIRED:

- A Bachelor of Science in Information Technology (IT) or related.
- Knowledge of IT frameworks such as ITIL (Information Technology Infrastructure Library) and COBIT.
- · A minimum of 3 years of working experience in IT field.
- · Working knowledge of helpdesk tools, database infrastructure and mobile devices.
- Proven experience in computer networks, information systems and Cyber Security.
- Experience in operating main types of technical, software and network tools.
- · A valid Driver's license: Code B.

CLOSING DATE: FRIDAY, 04 OCTOBER 2024, AT 16H00

Only short-listed candidates will be contacted. Applicants, who are not contacted within two weeks after the closing date, should consider their application unsuccessful. The recruitment process will be administered as prescribed by Namibian Affirmative Action Act. Women and person with disability are encouraged to apply. Sinomine Tsumeb Smelter is an Equal Opportunity Employer

APPLICATION PROCEDURES

All applications meeting the minimum requirements must be accompanied by a non-returnable detailed curriculum vitae, certified copies of qualifications and identification documents. Applications should clearly indicate the position being applied for and should be sent as one PDF attachment.

Applications not adhering to these rules will not be considered Please forward application to the email: stsrecruitment3@sinomine.na

The object of the exercise is not a cummerbund and bow tie competition for the office narcissist.

The plan that you develop should be goal oriented and also reward the guest.

*Pierre Mare has contributed development several of Namibia's successful most brands. He believes analutic management techniques unreasoned inspiration day. He is a fearless adventurer who once Christmas made dinner for a Moslem, a Catholic and Jew. Reach him at contact@pressoffice7. if you thought-leadership. strategy and support.



HANDBOOK







Ndapewoshali Shapwanale and Mutindi Jacobs appointed to NYEF advisory board

The Namibia Youth Energy Forum (NYEF) has appointed Ndapewoshali Shapwanale and Mutindi Jacobs as members of its Advisory Board.

Shapwanale currently serves as the Director of Communication and Stakeholder Relations at Reconnaissance Energy Africa Ltd.

In addition to her role at Reconnaissance Energy, she is a member of the Public Affairs Committee at the Namibia Petroleum Operators Association (NAMPOA) and has been recognized as one of the African Energy Chamber's 25 under 40 women leaders transforming the energy landscape in Africa.

"We are thrilled to welcome Ndapewoshali to our Advisory Board. Her leadership and commitment to excellence will be invaluable as we continue to inspire and educate young Namibians in the energy sector," said Fanuel Shinedima, Chairperson of the Namibia Youth Energy Forum. Jacobs, who holds a B-Juris and LLB from the University of Namibia, a Master's level certificate in Ocean Governance from the National University of Galway, and is currently pursuing a Master of Laws (LLM) in Oil and Gas Law at the University of Aberdeen, works with the Directorate of Law Reform at the Ministry of Justice.

"In her new role at the NYEF, Mrs. Jacobs aims to provide strategic guidance and actionable recommendations that will empower young Namibians in the rapidly developing energy sector."

The Namibia Youth Energy Forum serves as a platform for young Namibians in the energy industry, focusing on Oil & Gas, Hydrogen, and Renewable Energy. The Forum is dedicated to creating opportunities, providing mentorship, and facilitating networking for the next generation of leaders in Namibia's energy landscape.

Maximise your earnings from the upcoming tax relief

By Julia Mukusuka

s October approaches, bringing both the month of savings and the anticipated 2024 tax relief, Namibian households are set to enjoy much-needed financial relief.

This not only eases household budgets but also creates opportunities for savings and investment.

"Consider this analogy: Whether the harvest is abundant or modest, a farmer always reserves the best seeds for the next planting season. In times of abundance, the farmer stores surplus crops to ensure future provision. Similarly, we should save a portion of our income to secure our financial future and prepare for unforeseen circumstances. Without saving, even in favorable conditions, there will be no lasting benefit. Our income, now boosted by tax relief, is our 'bountiful harvest.' The key question is: how much should we set aside, and how should we manage it?" said Mukusuka, Manager of Deposits Mobilisation at Letshego Bank Namibia.

The upcoming tax relief offers more than just additional income—it is a chance to strengthen household financial foundations.

Saving is critical for long-term security, and with the right savings product, your



The upcoming tax relief offers more than just additional income—it is a

chance to strengthen household financial foundations.

money can grow significantly, helping you achieve your financial goals.

When selecting a savings account, it's important to consider factors like interest rates, flexibility, and security. Letshego Bank Namibia offers savings products like LetsInvest, FlexiSave, and TermSave Accounts, designed to grow your money with competitive interest rates.

Whether you are new to saving or looking to diversify, now is the perfect time to start.

This tax relief presents a valuable opportunity to build a more secure and prosperous financial future.

*Julia Mukusuka, is Manager of Deposit Mobilisation at Letshego Bank Namibia



Investing 101: Making your money work for you

By Betty Ndjiva

any of us were raised to believe earning working means a job, trading hours for income. While this mindset serves most of us well, it also has limitations-there's only so much time you can spend working, and without time to enjoy life, what's the point of earning money? Investing offers a powerful alternative: putting your money to work for you.

Investing: A Different Way to **Make Money**

Investing means allocating resources usually money-into assets like stocks, bonds, real estate, or mutual funds with the goal of generating income or appreciating in value.

This approach allows your money to grow independently of your active efforts. While you're working, relaxing, or spending time with family, your

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Investing means allocating resourcesusually money into assets like

stocks, bonds, real estate, or mutual funds with the goal of generating income or appreciating in value.

investments quietly generating are returns.

This shift from earning solely through labour to letting your money grow passively is key to achieving financial independence. It's not just increasing wealth; it's about creating opportunities for a more balanced and

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secure life.

Start Early: The Power of Compounding One of the greatest benefits of investing is compounding, which allows you to earn returns on both your initial investment and the interest it generates over time. The earlier you start, the longer your money has to grow, providing a significant financial cushion for the future.

Investing also builds resilience against financial uncertainties. By having diverse investments, you're better equipped to handle economic downturns, unexpected expenses, or pursue opportunities like starting a business.

Choosing the Right Investment Vehicle

Investing isn't one-size-fitsall. Here are three of many options:

Equities (Stocks):

Equities represent ownership shares in individual companies. When you buy a stock, you become a partial owner of that company.

- Returns and Risks: Equities have the potential for high returns, especially if the company performs well. However, they also come with higher risk due to market volatility, as the price of stocks can fluctuate significantly based on company performance, market conditions, and economic factors.
- Management: Investors manage their own portfolios or may hire a financial advisor.

Mutual Funds:

Mutual funds pool money from multiple investors to invest in a diversified portfolio of stocks, bonds, or other assets.

- A professional fund manager makes decisions about which securities to buy or sell within the fund.
- Returns and Risks: Mutual funds offer diversified exposure, which helps spread risk. While returns can be lower than individual equities due to diversification, they are generally less volatile.
- Management: Managed by professional fund managers who make investment decisions on behalf of the investors, making them ideal for those who prefer a hands-off approach.

Bonds:

Bonds are fixed-income securities that represent a loan made by an investor





2025/26 NAMIBIA HOUSEHOLD INCOME AND EXPENDITURE SURVEY: PILOT SURVEY

30 September - 20 October 2024

Selected areas for Pilot Survey

Regions:	Constituency	Specific areas
Erongo	Swakopmund	Ocean view (Streets are Sandpaper, Goswk, Sharewater, Plover, Emarald, Stick and Onyx).
Hardap	Mariental urban	Commercial Farms behind the Hardap Green Schemas
Zambezi	Kabbe South	Kasika area
Kavango West	Ncamangoro	Ncamangoro: Farms and Kaukuvisa West, Kulimina, Sihova and Mukuta
Kunene	Epupa	Otjihende, Oukavatye, Ombitisaori, Oruyombo, Oozonduuombe, Otjite, Okomukandi and Owakapaue
Khomas	Windhoek East	Ludwigsdorp (streets: Maria, Karin, Lanie, Gloudina, Qenta and Lyona Street).
Omusati	Oshikuku	Outapi
Omaheke	Kalahari	Commercial farms on the road to Drimopsis

Namibia Statistics Agency P.O. Box 2133, FGI House, Post Street Mall, Windhoek, Namibia Tel: +264 61 431 3200 Fax: +264 61 431 3253 Email: info@nsa.org.na www.nsa.org.na

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to a borrower (typically a corporation, government, or municipality). When you buy a bond, you are lending money to the issuer in exchange for periodic interest payments and the return of the bond's face value when it matures.

- Returns and Risks: Bonds generally offer lower returns compared to equities but are considered more stable and less risky. The risk level varies depending on the issuer; for example, government bonds are usually safer than corporate bonds but may offer lower yields. The main risks associated with bonds include interest rate risk, credit risk, and inflation risk.
- Management: Bonds can be managed individually by selecting and holding them to maturity, or they can be part of a professionally managed portfolio, such as a bond mutual fund.

Each investment vehicle has its pros and cons. If this feels overwhelming, rest assured that an accredited financial adviser can guide you. They will provide personalised advice and help align your investments with your financial goals, risk tolerance, and time horizon.

Financial Literacy: The Foundation of Smart Investing

At Momentum Metropolitan, we believe that financial literacy is the gateway to financial independence. By equipping yourself with knowledge about different investment options, you empower yourself to make informed decisions and overcome the fear of investing.

Investing is not just for the wealthy or financially savvy; it's a tool that everyone can use to achieve their goals. Whether you're saving for retirement, education, or simply want a financial cushion, investing can help you get there.

Take the First Step

If you're new to investing, start small and educate yourself. Seek advice from trusted financial advisers, explore different investment options, and assess what aligns with your risk tolerance.

The most important step is getting started.

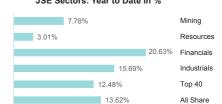
Remember, investing is not about timing the market but about time in the market. Start today and let your money work towards securing your financial future.

*Betty Ndjiva is Financial Adviser at Momentum Metropolitan



Commodities Spot Gold 2665.39 Platinum 1011.98 Palladium 1059.01 Silver 32.24 Uranium 79.50 Brent Crude 71.95 Iron Ore 89.48 Copper 9713.14 Natural Gas 2.61 Lithium 11.15



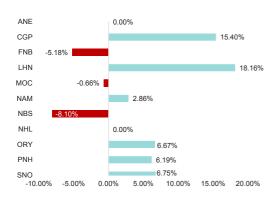


15%

20%

25%

NSX Local Stocks: Year to Date in %

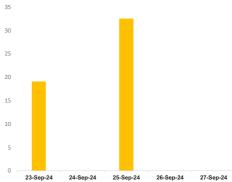


JSE ALL SHARE VALUE TRADED (ZAR BILLIONS)

10%

0%

5%



Global Indices: Year to Date in %

