

NEWSLETTER

THE POWER OF 8000



SPRING 2025

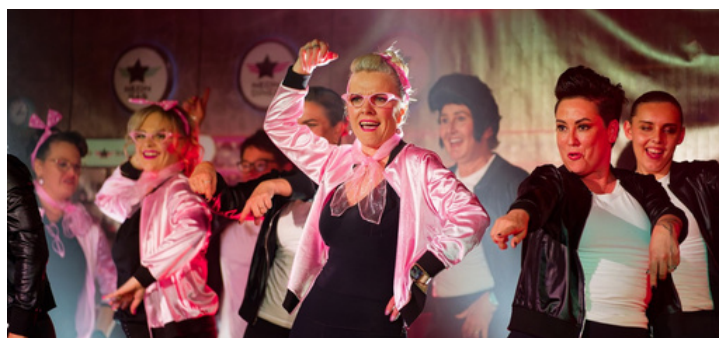
Dancing Queens Light Up White River!



The Dancing Queens – Ladies of White River – once again stole the spotlight with a spectacular *Grease* production at Picasso's at Casterbridge on 15 – 16 August. After months of rehearsals and dedication, their hard work paid off with **three sold-out shows** and an incredible **R120 000 raised** for *The Power of 8000*!

Forty-eight lovely local ladies poured their hearts into 178 hours of practice over six months, bringing the beloved musical to life with energy, humour, and sparkle. Their contribution embodies what makes White River special — community spirit, creativity, and generosity.

A heartfelt thank-you to the Dancing Queens, their local sponsors, and every supporter who made this dazzling event possible. Your passion keeps the Power of 8000 moving forward — and dancing all the way!



Bright Orange Skips Bring Big Change

Working hand-in-hand with local sponsors, The Power of 8000 has rolled out bright orange skips at key dumping hotspots around White River — transforming messy corners into cleaner, safer spaces.

Two skips, sponsored by **Lowveld Mobile Crane Hire** and **ROAR Construction**, have been placed at critical points at the **Plaston Road (R538)** and the **Nahemi Road T-junctions**. A third skip, sponsored by **Witrivier Geloofsentrum**, has been placed on **Sabie Road**, opposite **White River Crossing Centre**.

The skips are serviced by the **City of Mbombela Waste Department** through our ongoing collaborative partnership. Decorated with cheerful handprints by White River Pre-Primary scholars, the skips are a joyful sight — proof that even practical solutions can brighten the town.

These skips are already making a visible difference, giving residents a proper place to dispose of domestic waste and reducing illegal dumping in town. A great idea made beautiful — and it's working.



Heritage Day with Heart and Potjiekos

The Power of 8000 showed up in true Heritage Day spirit at the Family Fun Day Potjiekos Competition hosted by Nyoni Education Hub.

With laughter, good food, and a little friendly competition, our team proudly took part in celebrating South Africa's rich heritage. Congratulations to Rhodes and Angie Abell, our potjie champions, who cooked up pure magic in the pot, and won the day! Nothing beats a day of community, culture, and connection.



World Cleanup Day: Jock Park Comes Alive

For **World Cleanup Day 2025**, *The Power of 8000* joined hands with **Roots & Shoots** and the **White River Youth Forum** for a major cleanup of **Jock Park** — one of White River's historic green spaces.

The event, part of Jane Goodall's global *Roots & Shoots* movement, brought together youth, families, and local volunteers to make a visible difference in our town. Together, they cleared litter, restored pathways, and brought pride back to this heritage site — once an outspan stop mentioned in Jock of the Bushveld.



*Look at that teamwork in action
— every hand helping, every bag
making a difference!*



Although **Dr Jane Goodall** passed away shortly afterwards, her message of compassion, community, and action lives on. This cleanup stands as a small but meaningful tribute to the movement she began.



Lions Park Gets a Fresh New Look

Big thanks to Martin Breytenbach, who took the lead in giving the Lions Park playground a bright new lease on life!

The swings, slide, and roundabout have all been repaired and freshly painted — ready for the laughter and energy of White River's children once again. What was once tired and worn is now colourful, safe, and inviting.

This project is a great reminder of what can happen when community members step up to make a difference. Thank you, Martin, and everyone involved in keeping our town's play spaces alive and joyful.



Powering our Power Rangers

Behind our clean streets and neat parks is a team of hardworking heroes — our Power Rangers!

A huge thank-you to the local businesses who keep our team of Tshepo, Mdu, Alfred, Sandile, and Siya fuelled and ready for action each day. The generous meal support from **Pick 'n Pay**, **Spar**, **Galito's**, and **Savemor** is very gratefully received.

It's this kind of everyday kindness that keeps The Power of 8000 strong. Good food, good energy, and good hearts make all the difference.

