

**CREATIVE COPPER NEWSLETTER FOR FEBRUARY
2015
CELEBRATING 27 YEARS!!!**

Dear All,

Happy New Year and we do wish you and yours a wonderful peace filled, healthy 2015.

The weather is very typical of an El Nino, with scorching hot days and very little precipitation? I cannot tell you how hot 35 degrees is all day long! Rain is forecast - so let's hold thumbs.

I am thrilled to tell you that **hand-made goods are more than ever in demand!** We must support this industry as it is just too easy to support machine made goods from places like China and India, who are our direct competition.

Our power utility has failed us South Africans and we are having **LOAD SHEDDING** at the most unexpected times. With our labour compliment 30 minutes of load shedding is 1.5 days production! Sometimes the switch is thrown for 2 hours? Kindly bear with us as this horrible state of the Nation persists until April at least.

We are getting closer to our year end, as well as our annual increase time. I am fully aware that every increase could affect sales but as you know we have no option. Our suppliers have little regard, with copper prices coming down our invoices mysteriously show an increase? Electricity, rates, water and consumables have the horrible habit of increasing way beyond inflation! So to get to the critical point going forward, we stalled a **4%** increase in September and have no option now, but to increase all Jewellery by **8%** and all Tableware, Candle ware and Corporate Gifts by **10%**. These increases will come into working on the 1st of March 2015. Hopefully you will beat the increase with new orders?

Load Shedding has also put our Bush lamps under stress and today they are all sold out waiting for the factory to manufacture.

Our **face book** crashed through the **7000** "likes" last week which is another great feather in the cap of Nicole. Well done.

We have failed to invoice some of you using the courier **Aramex** for reasons beyond our control. We are trying to trace the missing consignments that were not billed so please don't think the delivery was free. We would be in serious trouble as our prices cannot support transporting goods.

I was caught for an ostrich egg out of the 2014 catalogue, as the picture showed the lamp with an egg. Please note the lamp comes alone without the displayed egg which has now been handed over to its new proud owner!

Going forward, these lovely lamps are expensive to fit with the electrics and we will now need a minimum order of 10 and a 50% deposit to start making.

If you want to store your earring collection, why not try an **ICE TRAY**? Good idea?

We are very grateful to many of you that climbed in and placed great orders to kick 2015 off. Thank you so much for your continued growth and support.

Our Ice Cream scoop supplier has reverted to cheap plastic scoops #\$\$%!! and I am desperately looking for good scoops if anyone can help me.

A local trend forecaster: Dave Nemeth picks copper as the major metal for 2015 replacing chrome in everything from lights to all decors.

We were blessed with yearend visitors as well as early year visitors. Those from a far are:

Leane Kok and Jeanne Anne - all the way from Phoenix as well as Sanne Brovius from Holland. Then we were filmed by the DTI (Department of Trade and Industries) and their comments were: Excellent! Outstanding! Brilliant! As well as Brilliant Proper! Thanks DTI!

Happy Valentine's Day to all you of you,

MICHAEL