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Beacon of light this Easter

Rustenburg – For most Rustenburg citizens the cross shining on the hill close to Kwaggasrus has served as a beautiful reminder that the good Grace and Blessings of God shines down upon us and our fair city.

The cross was originally erected by the members of the community to commemorate Easter back in 1999. Ds Coenie Swart, previously a minister at NG Bergsig church (who was actively involved in its construction) told the *Platinum Weekly* newspaper, in an interview in 2014, that, “it started as a way to remind the community of our blessing and our beliefs.”

Not only is it a testimonial to beliefs, but it has become a signature piece of the Rustenburg skyline. It took the love and commitment of many members of public to get the cross up the steep hill as there was no roads leading up the hill back then. They had to slowly pull it up the steep hill piece-by-piece and reassemble it up there. They also had to provide power to the cross as it's only neighbour on the hill was the reminiscence of an old 'fort' from the Anglo-Boer war. Ds Coenie also pointed out the fact that the cross was erected before the N4, despite the fact that it's so perfectly visible from the N4 that one could say it was planned that way.

Over the past few years, Shofar Technologies has maintained the cross, especially over Easter. They have committed to do the same this year. The past two weeks saw Fanie Coetzee, owner of Shofar Technologies, and his team, working tirelessly to get the cross ready. For the first time in many months, the cross casted light over Rustenburg, on Friday evening, 7 April 2017. Two days later, Sunday, 9 April, the cross stopped shining. The reason: the cross fell victim of vandalism!

The very next day Shofar Technologies returned, made the pilgrimage up the hill and restored the lights. In an interview with the *Platinum Weekly* newspaper, Coetzee said, “Come rain, hail or storms... or vandalism, we will do everything in our power to make the cross' light shine this Easter.”

On behalf of Rustenburg, we would like to thank Coetzee and his team, for taking their own time, effort and finances to ensure that the cross will illuminate our Easter. The cross, at the height of 25 metres, and width of 21 metres, is now decorated with 150 metres of LED industrial rope lights, containing approximately 4 500 lights (diodes). The cross is now powered by Shofar Technologies, who use the same area for their tower. Shofar Technologies, operating for the past 17 years in Rustenburg, is well known for their business and personal wireless internet (and wifi), telecommunications and recently added CCTV to their services.

If you'd like to give a hand: phone the guys at Shofar Tech to find out how and where: 086-11-12-13-1.

As Ds Coenie said; “This cross is a part of the community's identity and as such it's the entire community's responsibility.”



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