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Broadway Shift

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Toyota backs TSAM with historic **R10.4bn** investment

+ US shuts Botswana VISA processing ops



WIN P1000 SHELL FUEL VOUCHER

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About Broadway Shift Magazine

Broadway Shift Magazine is the official publication of Broadway Toyota, dedicated to sharing updates about our dealership, including community initiatives, in-house developments, and all things Toyota. Based in Mahalapye, Broadway Toyota is a citizen-owned dealership authorised to sell, service, and provide genuine parts for Toyota vehicles in Botswana. We take pride in being part of the Toyota family and in serving our customers with excellence.



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BOTTERILL AND KÖHNE LEAD TOYOTA GAZOO RACING TO VICTORY AT GR STELLA 1000 MARATHON



TOYOTA GAZOO Racing South Africa (TGRSA) underlined the toughness of its GR Hilux IMT EVO after securing a dominant victory at the 2026 GR Stella 1000 Marathon, with Guy Botterill and Henry Köhne claiming overall honours in South Africa's toughest rally-raid event.

The duo led from the opening stages and never looked back, completing the near-1,000km marathon around Stella in the North West Province in 9hr 49min 53sec. Despite the challenge of opening the road throughout the final two days, Botterill and Köhne delivered a faultless drive to seal victory in Köhne's first competitive outing alongside Botterill.

The result highlighted Toyota's renowned Quality, Durability and Reliability (QDR), with three GR Hilux IMT EVOs finishing inside the overall top five, while the manufacturer also walked away with the Manufacturers' Award.

Championship leader Saood Variawa and navigator Charan Moore showed race-winning pace throughout the weekend but saw their podium hopes dashed after an incident involving a spectator vehicle damaged their Hilux during a transfer section. The pair recovered to finish fifth overall.



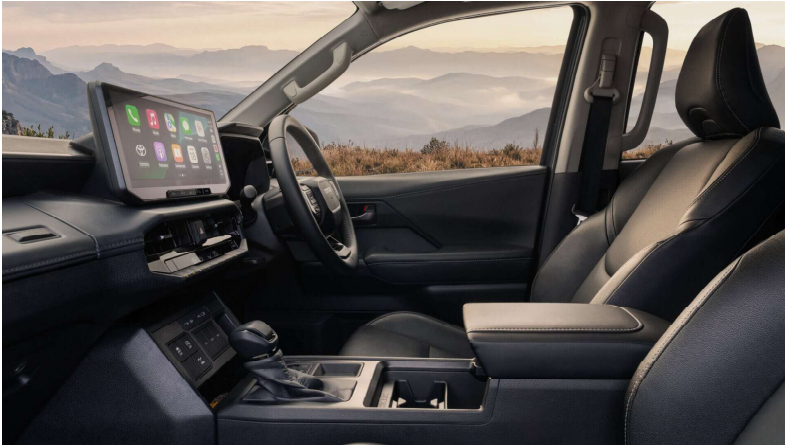
Youngster Sa'aad Variawa, partnered by Wade Harris, impressed on his marathon debut, overcoming navigation issues and front-end damage to secure fourth place and valuable experience over the demanding three-day event.

"Winning your home event has often proven to be a tricky prospect, but I am delighted that Guy and Henry were able to secure victory at the GR Stella 1000 Marathon," said Glenn Crompton, Vice President of Marketing at Toyota South Africa Motors. "To see all three of our GR Hilux IMT EVO crews finish inside the overall top five, while also securing the Manufacturers' Award, makes the result even more rewarding."

Fresh from another commanding performance, TGRSA now shifts its focus to the Century Property Developments/Century Racing Endurance Race in the Langkloof on 28 and 29 August.



TOYOTA BACKS SA WITH HISTORIC R10.4BN HILUX INVESTMENT



Toyota South Africa Motors (TSAM) has doubled down on its faith in South Africa, unveiling a record-breaking R10.4 billion investment as the first ninth-generation Hilux rolled off the production line at its Prospecton plant in Durban.

The launch, attended by the South African president, Cyril Ramaphosa, Cabinet ministers, Japanese diplomats and Toyota global executives, marks the biggest single product investment in TSAM's history and reinforces South Africa's role as one of Toyota's key global manufacturing hubs.

For 56 years, the Hilux has been built in Durban, with more than 2.9 million units produced and exported to 74 markets across Africa and Europe. The programme now supports 101 Tier One suppliers, sustains nearly 27,000 jobs in the supplier network and employs more than 4,300 people at the Prospecton plant.

TSAM President and CEO Andrew Kirby said the investment goes far beyond building a new bakkie. "The ninth-generation Hilux is not simply the next Hilux. It is the next chapter in South African manufacturing."

He added: "When Toyota invests, the impact extends far beyond the vehicles we build. It boosts local suppliers, creates employment, develops skills and contributes to the growth of an entire industrial ecosystem. Every Hilux that leaves our production line carries the contribution and pride of thousands of South Africans."

The investment includes a new Toyota Logistics Centre, a Chassis Frame Coating Facility and a Chassis Frame Welding Facility, while R3.2 billion has been channelled into supplier development to deepen localisation. Toyota and its suppliers have also invested billions more in advanced production technology and tooling.

Representing Toyota Motor Corporation, Shinichiro Otsuka praised TSAM's contribution to the group's global operations. "Toyota South Africa Motors continues to demonstrate the quality, resilience and manufacturing excellence that define Toyota operations around the world."

In his keynote address, President Cyril Ramaphosa hailed the investment as a vote of confidence in South Africa. "Today's milestone celebrates not simply another model rolling off an assembly line. It celebrates Toyota South Africa's continued confidence in our country and in its people."

As the new Hilux enters production, Toyota says the latest model brings major upgrades in design, safety, connectivity and performance while retaining the toughness that has made it one of South Africa's most trusted vehicles.

Closing the ceremony, Kirby looked beyond today's celebration. "The generation before us built one of Africa's greatest automotive manufacturing success stories. Our responsibility is to ensure that the generation after us inherits one that is even stronger. Today's investment is an important step towards that future."



Electricity costs turn up the heat

Botswana households and businesses will soon be paying more for electricity after the Botswana Energy Regulatory Authority (BERA) approved electricity tariff increase, giving Botswana Power Corporation (BPC) the green light to charge more.

From 1 August, 2026 keeping the lights on is going to cost more after BERA approved a 9% electricity tariff increase across all customer categories.

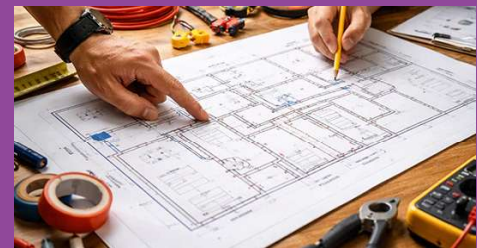
The increase comes after BPC applied for higher tariffs in December last year, arguing that more revenue was needed to keep the country's power system running. BERA says it reached the decision after public consultations, stakeholder submissions and weighing the country's current socio-economic conditions.



For households already counting every thebe, the increase is expected to pile even more pressure on stretched budgets, with many likely to think twice before switching on the electric stove, heater, kettle or air conditioner.

Businesses will not escape the current either. Large commercial and industrial customers face additional changes, with demand charges now calculated over a six-month period instead of 12 months, while billing will also shift from kilowatts (kW) to kilovolt-amperes (kVA) in a move aimed at improving network efficiency and cutting system losses.

BERA has urged consumers to use electricity wisely by adopting energy-saving habits to reduce monthly bills and help safeguard the long-term sustainability of Botswana's electricity supply.



SHELL ULTRA CITY MAHALAPYE LAUNCHES THE WINNING FILLING COMPETITION



Motorists filling up at Shell Ultra City Mahalapye now have more than just a full tank to look forward to after the service station joined Vivo Energy Botswana's exciting The Winning Filling competition.

The nationwide promotion, which is registered with Botswana's Gambling Authority under licence GA-173412, gives customers the chance to win P1,000 fuel vouchers simply by filling up and following a few easy steps.

“ The promotion kicked off on 6 July 2026 and will run until 30 September 2026, with draws taking place every week over an 11-week period ”

According to Vivo Energy Botswana, the competition is open to anyone aged 18 years and above. To enter, customers must spend P300 or more on Shell fuels at any participating Shell service station, take a picture of their receipt and send it via WhatsApp to the competition number.

Customers must initiate the entry by sending the word SHELL. They then follow the on-screen prompts to complete their entry. Successful entrants will go into the weekly draw, where lucky winners will each walk away with a P1,000 fuel voucher, redeemable at Shell service stations across Botswana.

The promotion kicked off on 6 July 2026 and will run until 30 September 2026, with draws taking place every week over an 11-week period.

US shuts Botswana VISA processing operations



The United States has announced that it will end VISA processing operations in Botswana as part of a broader plan to centralise VISA services across Africa. The move forms part of Washington's restructuring of its consular network, which is expected to reduce the number of embassies and consulates processing VISA applications on the continent from about 50 to around 20, according to an internal US Department of State memorandum cited by US media.

The U.S Embassy in Gaborone stated that "The U.S. Department of State is realigning visa operations in Africa to regional hubs, part of a long-standing Department practice that strengthens national security by promoting more uniform screening, vetting, and adjudication standards, as well as improves efficiency."

In a statement seen by this

“with effect from 1 August 2026, routine non-immigrant VISAs and all immigrant VISA applications for Botswana citizens and residents will be handled by the US Consulate General in Johannesburg, South Africa.”

publication, the Botswana government confirmed that, with effect from 1 August 2026, routine non-immigrant VISAs and all immigrant VISA applications for Botswana citizens and residents will be handled by the US Consulate General in Johannesburg, South Africa. Applicants will continue to begin the process online before attending appointments and completing processing at the regional centre in Johannesburg.

The Botswana government said it views the decision with concern, noting that the United States' increasingly restrictive VISA regime has made travel more difficult for Botswana than in previous years. It added that it remains engaged in discussions with the US government over the changes.

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Competition runs from 6th July 2026 to 30 September 2026.
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