



MEDIA RELEASE

Friday 08 April 2016
EMBARGO: Immediate

Western Province Blood Transfusion Service visits Knysna Municipality

Working with the Western Cape Blood Transfusion Service Knysna Municipality held a blood donation drive on Thursday 07 April, which was also coincidentally World Health Day.

South Africa is currently facing a major blood shortage; particularly the “O” blood type and hospitals have been requested to cut back on non-urgent surgery until such time as the situation improves.

The drive was supported by ten regular donors and one new donor donating eleven full units. In total residents helped to save 33 lives.

Knysna Executive Mayor, Georlene Wolmarans said, “With the help of the donors who came through on Thursday the strain on our blood bank reserves has been temporarily alleviated. If Thursday was your first time donating blood, I urge you to become a regular donor. Donating blood is an easy, selfless act that you can do on a regular basis”.

“Regular blood donations mean that there will be sufficient amounts of safe blood in stock. Remember that men can give blood up to four times a year - women up to three times - providing there are at least two months between donations. “By donating blood once, you can save three lives. It’s the easiest way I know of saving lives”, she continued.

“For you, it’s just a few moments out of your day but for patients in need, it may save the person’s life”, Ms. Wolmarans concluded.

For further information on blood donation and the Western Cape Blood Transfusion Service visit www.wpblood.org.za.

Knysna Municipality Communications Department

P O Box 21. Knysna. 6570. Western Cape. South Africa

Tel [+27 \(0\)44 302 6300](tel:+270443026300) (switchboard) or 302 6471 (direct)

Fax [+27 \(0\)86 215 4818](tel:+270862154818) e-mail communications@knysna.gov.za