

ArcelorMittal South Africa Solidarity Holidays 2012

Day 2: Tuesday, 27 March 2012

Cheerful Peter Mogoere is the life of the South African Solidarity Holiday

Rio Matlhaku



If Peter Mogoere were a boxer, he would definitely tip the scales as a heavyweight. Quick witted with a ready smile, Peter is a 25 year veteran at ArcelorMittal South Africa. He is one of the employees who has volunteered since the Solidarity Holiday started in 2009. He has acted as a co-ordinator of the project since its inception, a role he is proud to have fulfilled.

He says his highlight was in 2009 when volunteers built and handed over a house to a 109 year old granny who previously lived in a shack.

The look in the old woman's eyes brought tears to the eyes of most of the volunteers who were present at the time, Peter says with a distant look. Each year I look forward to this week as it affords us, employees of ArcelorMittal South Africa to make a lasting difference to the lives of people who are less fortunate.

Peter is also proud that in the four years of building the 26 houses in Orange Farm, the volunteers have gotten to know the locals and vice versa. Going back to Orange Farm is like going home, he adds.

The building project is funded by ArcelorMittal South Africa in partnership with global NGO Habitat for Humanity.

Peter enjoys being the centre of attention, not a difficult thing for man his size, cracking jokes and generally making fun of everyone. His signature is rallying the team each morning with a chant of 'Arcelor, and the team responds 'One Team', he then goes 'One Team', the team then goes 'Arcelor' followed by a rapturous cheering.

Peter says he will definitely come back for more. So he should, the team needs his energy and enthusiasm.



Peter Mogoere with Stan Zywockiewicz and Charles Nchejane