



## **NATAL MIDLANDS BRANCH OF THE B.S.A.P.** **ASSOCIATION**

### **B.S.A.P. NOTE BOOK VOLUME 12 – SEPTEMBER 2009**

#### **PAST FUNCTIONS:**

The Inchanga Park social day held on the 19<sup>th</sup> of July was great success with over 50 members and partners attending. There were some old faces we have not seen for a while which really make attending these functions worth while. Thanks to ‘Smudge’ and Shirley Smith for arranging the venue which was lovely. Let’s see if next year we can make the 100 mark for those attending.

Breakfast at St Ives on the Midlands Meander on the 19<sup>th</sup> of July 2009 was also a great success with 47 people attending. You could not have asked for better weather, and it was great to see some faces who have not been around for a while. Fay Marshall the widow of 4805 Denis made a special effort to be there after being off colour for a while. Thanks to P/Res Stan Ferguson for attending and chauffeuring Fay up to the venue.

Also in attendance were special members, Betty Chance, Bette Riddle, Jenny McDonald, 3708 Bill Crabtree, 8507 Mike, Cheryl and Mandy Crabtree (*that’s Mikes lovely daughter, not his second wife!*), 4380 Pat and Rosemary McCulloch, 7660 Billy and Gwyneth Howells, 9744 Tim Steyn and his stunning fishing Partner who’s name “got away” sorry!!, 4898 Chris and Hilary Thorne, P/Res John Drury and his partner Heather, 6519 John and Nancy Carroll, 5473 John and Sandy Clack, P/Res Tickey and Penny Dalton with guests Andrew and Janet Erasmus, 4564 Peter and Jean Reynolds, 4521 Phil and Eve Mingard, P/Res Honk and Gina Hyde, P/Res. Malcolm and Barbara Raistrick, 8242 Alan and Flik Bennett, as always it was a pleasure to have a contingent from the Natal Branch supporting our efforts, they were 7229 Des and Trish Howse, 5661 Trevor and Linda Wilson, 5293 Trevor and Beryl Dutton, 6717 Hugh and Jill Dixon, and finally our Chairman 4767/5717 Steve and Marion Stevens.

A good hearty breakfast was had by all, and Steve Stevens duly thanked everyone for attending and hopefully having an enjoyable morning.

#### **FUTURE FUNCTIONS:**

##### **Sunday 8th of November 2009 – Annual Lunch at the Hilton Hotel: (NOTE CHANGE OF DATE)**

The annual lunch will be held at the Hilton hotel for Sunday the 8<sup>th</sup> of November 2009. 12:00 for 12:30. The cost will be R80.00 per head which includes a full carvery lunch and wine. We look forward to a good turnout, and I can assure you that you will get value for money. Our Guest speaker is non other than Rob Bristow who joined the Force exactly thirty years

ago (*one of the elite 69-ers - we were certainly something else!!*). So those of you who can match 30 years or better, lets see you there. A word of warning to Rob though, be prepared to face the wrath of the infamous John Haswell who is sure to be at his very best. Please diarise the date and times, and book early to avoid disappointment. Dress: Suits or Blazer.

**Saturday 5th of December 2009 – 11:00 for 11:30 – AGM at the Hilton Hotel:**

Please attend the AGM this year, you will get a free cup of coffee and be enlightened by the intricate running of the branch. You will not be forced to take office. However we would like to see some fresh faces with a few novel ideas on how to make the branch a success. We look forward to seeing you there.

**Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> of December 12:00 for 13:00 - Xmas Party at Lions Club Howick:**

Once again we will be having our Christmas party at the Howick Lions Club House. Anyone who attended last year will vouch that an exceptionally good meal is prepared by the Lady Lions, and we hope that you will be able to attend. Please diarize the date. The cost will be R50,00 per head.

**SNIPPETS:**

The SMS system to remind members of function and events seems to be working, so let us have your Cell phone number if we have not already got it.

4807 Peter Rowsell recently underwent a hip replacement operation at Medi Clinic Pietermaritzburg, unfortunately Peter has taken a bit longer than expected to recover, and we wish him back home and up and about shortly.

7552 Ben Pretorius has been in and out of Medi Clinic a few times over the past month, and he too unfortunately is not well, we wish Ben a speedy recovery.

We were sorry to hear that Stella Robertson will be leaving, or has already left for Australia to be with her two daughters. Stella is the widow of 5298 John Robertson (who served both in the BSAP and in the NRP) and has been a staunch supporter of the Midlands branch since inception. We will miss you Stella and wish her everything of the best in Australia. So those of you in the Queensland area, keep a look out for Stella.

(Below, find the e-mail received from Stella.)

Hi

Just to let you know that I am leaving for Brisbane for good to stay with my daughters. One lives in Cairns and the other in Noosa. Both cities are full of South Africans so I shall feel very much at home!

Thanks for always including me in the BSAP outings, which I shall miss very much and have enjoyed for many years. Hopefully I shall meet up with ex BSAP's in both of the two cities.

Thank you once again and my love and best wishes to you.

Stella

**OBITUARIES WORLD WIDE – 2009**

**4153 SMITH**, Terence Walter Stewart (Terry) passed away on the 16<sup>th</sup> of June 2009 in Queensland Australia. Terry served from the 29<sup>th</sup> of December 1946 to 3<sup>rd</sup> January 1965 retiring on gratuity as Chief Inspector.

**8304 WEATHERALL, Sydney** passed away at Stockton-on-Tees on the 24<sup>th</sup> of June 2009. Syd served in the Force from 19<sup>th</sup> of August 1969 to the 25<sup>th</sup> May 1982 leaving with the rank of Superintendent after spending most of his career in the Signals Branch. Syd had been suffering from Cancer for a few months.

**4991 CRAKER, Rex** passed away on the 24<sup>th</sup> of June 2009 in Mpumalanga following complications after an operation. Rex served in the Force from December 1952 to May 1961 and will be remembered as a keen footballer and cricketer.

**6381 COOPER, Anthony Macmillien (Tony)** passed away on the 24<sup>th</sup> of July 2009 in Christchurch New Zealand after a long illness. Tony served in the Force from May 1961 to May 1982 retiring with the rank of Superintendent. Tony and his wife Pat lived in Pietermaritzburg for many years before moving to New Zealand.

**4165 McKAY, Ian** passed away on the 26<sup>th</sup> of July 2009 in London. Ian served most of his career in the plain clothes branch from December 1946 to October 1975 retiring as a Senior Assistant Commissioner. Ian very recently left Zimbabwe to go and live in the United Kingdom.

**4006 FOX, John Charles Hooton** passed away in Auckland New Zealand on the 30<sup>th</sup> of July 2009 following a stroke. John served in the Force from April 1946 to April 1949.

**8225 Le ROUX, Trevor John**, passed away in Port Elizabeth on the 31<sup>st</sup> of July 2009, Trevor served from the 15<sup>th</sup> of April 1969 leaving at his own request on the 16<sup>th</sup> of June 1973 as a DPO.

**6119 BURBIDGE, Edward John Francis** apparently passed away in 2004 in Chipinge, His death only came to light when members of his 1960 Recruit Squad were trying to contact squad members for a squad reunion. Edward served from the 8<sup>th</sup> of February 1960 to the 31<sup>st</sup> of July 1964 leaving with the rank of Constable.

**4321 BERRY, Jack** passed away in Zimbabwe on the 14<sup>th</sup> of August 2009. Jack served from the 16<sup>th</sup> of November 1948 to the 20<sup>th</sup> of November 1968 when he retired as a Chief Superintendent. Jack was a life member of the Mashonaland Branch of the Association.

**9437 DONACHIE, Neil Mervyn** passed away as a result of a heart attack on the 17<sup>th</sup> of August 2009 in Cape Town. Neil served from the 1<sup>st</sup> of July 1975 to the 31<sup>st</sup> of December 1980. He served in the radio branch leaving with the rank of Inspector (T).

**5552 McGUFFOG, Neil McGlip** passed away on the 20<sup>th</sup> of August 2009 in Tasmania. Neil served in the Force between September 1956 and April 1959 after which he went to serve in the Swaziland Police.

**4416 WEBB, Edwin Alfred (PMM)** was found dead at his residence in the Masonic cottage complex in Bulawayo on Thursday the 27<sup>th</sup> of August 2009, apparently after suffering from hypertension. Eddy joined the Force on the 29<sup>th</sup> March 1949, retiring on pension on the 30<sup>th</sup> April 1982 as Assistant Commissioner.

**4040 CLARKE, Derek Peter** passed away on the 15<sup>th</sup> of September 2009 in Adelaide, Australia. Derek joined the force in June 1946 and served until May 1948. Derek was the father of WP424 Pauline Clarke.

### **A POEM** (Recently received from friends still living in Zimbabwe)

Jacarandas, blue tinged trees  
Laughing children, all say please  
Smiling nannies loud and chatting  
Queens Club cricket, Zimbabwe batting  
Braai's and picnics, Maleme Dam  
Tanganda tea and Colcom Ham

Greeting friends to talk and talk  
Hillside was safe to walk  
Snakes and mozzies, flying ants  
Schoolboy rugby, winning chants  
Swimming parties, sleep in nights  
Christmas Carols by candle light  
Honest Police, able and willing  
Downing rolls ten for a shilling  
Sunday car trips, Matopos caves  
OM's and Busters Saturday raves  
Week-end trips to Vic Falls  
Dancing and Ballet in Curtain Calls  
Beautiful gardens, Centenary Park  
Window shopping just after dark  
Burger and Hot-dogs, Eskimo Ices  
Aromas from cafes of curry and spices  
Snow white tackies, Bata shoes  
Charity fetes, tombola and booze  
Clear blue skies or heavy rain  
Wish I could live it all over again  
Memories fade, so much to tell  
OH Yes, I remember it well

James Sturges (84)  
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**Your Committee for 2009 are:**

<b>Chairman:</b>	<b>4767/5717</b>	<b>Steve Stevens</b>	<b>033-2394276</b>
<b>Secretary:</b>	<b>8242</b>	<b>Alan Bennett</b>	<b>033-3441122 (h) 033-3922910 (w)</b>
	<b>0823721448 (cell)</b>		
<b>Treasurer:</b>	<b>P/Res</b>	<b>Flik Bennett</b>	<b>033-3441122 (h) 0823685736</b>
<b>Members:</b>	<b>4564</b>	<b>Peter Reynolds</b>	<b>033-3302292</b>
	<b>5473</b>	<b>John Clack</b>	<b>033-3306430 (h)</b>
	<b>4898</b>	<b>Chris Thorne</b>	<b>033-2394283</b>
	<b>8507</b>	<b>Mike Crabtree</b>	<b>033-3434381 (h) 0832271071</b>
	<b>9878P/R</b>	<b>Brian Jarvis</b>	<b>033-2394265</b>