



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

B.S.A.P. NOTE BOOK VOLUME 11 – JUNE 2009

PAST FUNCTIONS:

The annual Race Day was held at Scottsville Racecourse on Sunday the 21st of June 2009 with a pretty good turnout. As predicted the weather was kind and warm for this time of the year. I don't think that anyone went home with a fortune, however the braai and facilities were well arranged thanks to Peter and Jean Reynolds. Those attending were Bill Crabtree, Mike and Cheryl Crabtree, Beverley Rixon and partner Dennis Logan, Alan and Flik Bennett, John and Nancy Carroll, John Drury and partner Heather Botes, Peter and Jean Reynolds, Tickey and Penny Dalton, John and Sandy Clack, Nigel Cuerden and Des and Trish Howse all the way from Durban and representing the Natal Branch. Apologies were received from Natal Branch Chairman Nobby Clark and our Chairman Steve Stevens.

FUTURE FUNCTIONS:

Sunday 19 July 2009 - 11:30 onwards – Inchanga Social Day:

All's ready for our Social day down at Inchanga Park where we have the opportunity to see our comrades from the other side of Marianhill where everything rusts. I'm sure it will be interesting to compare notes with the chaps and their partners from the "*bambazonke*" part of Natal. Braai fires will be provided by the Natal Branch, so pack your meat packs and refreshments and make an effort to support those who work so hard to make these occasions so successful.

Sunday 23 August 2009 - 09:30 onwards–Breakfast at St. Ives on the Midlands Meander:

We have arranged a special breakfast at St Ives, where we can relax and enjoy the scenery afterwards, and maybe even stay for Lunch! Cost is R60,00 per head which we have been promised will be something special. Booking is essential, so **contact Peter or Jean Reynolds on 033-3302292** early to avoid disappointment.

Sunday 15th of November 2009 – Annual Lunch at the Hilton Hotel:

The annual lunch is now booked at the Hilton hotel for Sunday the 15th 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. More details with regard to speakers etc to follow. Please diarise the date and times.

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

SNIPPETS:

In order to keep all our members up to date with events, and to send reminders, the Secretary now has the facility to SMS you all on your cell phones. This is done with one touch of a button, and saves your committee having to phone everyone each time we hold a function. So if you do have a Cell phone, please contact me Alan Bennett (see below) and give me your

number. If you received an SMS reminding you of the Race Day, I have already got your number.

Some good news for a change, 4807 Peter and Denny Rowsell are back in Pietermaritzburg after a stay in Ballito, welcome home we look forward to seeing you at our functions.

We are sorry that Smudge and Shirley Smith were unable to make the race day, we believe that Shirley is still not 100% over her medical problems, but we look forward to seeing you both on the 19th of July at the Inchanga Park social day.



4521 Phil Mingard receiving his Honorary Life Membership certificate from Natal Midlands Chairman 4767 / 5717 Steve Stevens at the Amberglen Lunch held on the 13th of April 2009. Phil was the founding Chairman of the Natal Midlands Branch when it was formed on the 9th of September 2000 to the 22nd of November 2008 when he took "early" retirement after a job exceptionally well done. To Phil and Eve we know that we on the Committee will continue to get your support, and look forward to you both attending our functions into the future.

OBITUARIES WORLD WIDE – 2009

5643 BELL, Derek Turnbull passed away on the 1st of June 2009 in Brisbane, Australia. Derek served from the 10th of February 1957 to the 27th of May 1960 leaving as a Constable. (Find anecdote received via e-mail)

Derek Bell, 5408 Richard (Dick) Barnes, 5450 Dick Howlett and others were part of a squad(s) stationed at Gatooma when I was stationed at Hartley in 1957-1960

They were well-known for attempting to launch a rocket to the moon with a frog on board from The Gatooma Hotel car park. The huge explosion caused by the igniting of the "fuel" shattered the windows on one side of the hotel and could be heard 13 miles away at various places in the Gatooma District. No one could ever find the frog intact or otherwise but the dinky toys (military/civil) were intact whilst the actual explosion was being photographed. Copies of this photograph with the accompanying story are held by a few of us. Inspector David Cook was away at the time, probably on Inspection or Conference. Apparently, Dave Cook never found out, but no one knows who or if the broken windows were replaced. Story says that the folks in the area, were so fond of the Police, that no "dobbing in" occurred.

Derek first served as a Policeman in the Edinburgh Police. Both of us also served as Commissioned Officers in The Royal Papua & New Guinea Constabulary after our resignations from The BSAP. We strongly agreed that the training and operational skills of the BSAP could not be matched by any other Police Force that we knew of. On our return from New Guinea to Australia, Derek served in ASIO and The Queensland Dept of Justice & Attorney General, whilst I served in the Queensland Public service in Children's Services, Police (Accounts Section) and Justice Department (General Duties ,Enforcement of Fines and Mining matters).

Mike, I hope this piece of African History during the time of The British Empire is useful, amusing and typical of the sort of chaps that served the Empire so well and followed the fine tradition --- "No names, No pack drill" .

Yours sincerely, Ian Milton (Const 5757) Hartley, Selous, Chakari , Gatooma District, Midlands Province, RHODESIA.

3835 STANYON, Herbert John passed away on the 8th of June 2009 in Queensland, Australia. John served from the 23rd of April 1939 to the 14th April 1953 leaving with the rank of Detective/Sergeant First Class.

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

Your Committee for 2009 are:

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