

# DAWNING NEWS

February/March/April 2018



**Official Newsletter of the Dawn Patrol Moth Shellhole - Children's Way, Bergvliet, Cape**

*Editor - Tony van der Spuy Sub Editor - Felicity van der Spuy - headoffice@spectrapage.co.za*

## A MESSAGE FROM THE OLD BILL

**Billy Hill**

Dear fellow MOTH and friends of the MOTH

Dawn Patrol has had an excellent start to the year with functions being well supported, even though January is a very long month. We recently invited the MMA to our shellhole for their first meeting of the year and breakfast. The look on some faces and amusement seeing men and woman queuing up to be served and walking to their tables with the breakfast being served on a vark pan. Many had lots to chat about and even enquired as to where the drum of cold fatty water was to wash up. What a great day and thanks to those that worked frying 140 eggs, cooking up the baked beans, burger patties, bacon stuffed potatoes and toast.

Late last year a 4.5 litre bottle of Barclays whisky was raffled off to raise funds for our long drop toilet fund. It was won by Debbie Evans wife of Moth Evans who kindly re donated the bottle back to us towards further fund raising efforts. Thank you Debbie and to all that purchased tickets.



The back to work / steak evening was well supported as usual and a great evening was had by all who attended. On Friday 23rd February we will be having an Italian theme evening with lots of pasta and lasagne for the non Banting folk, but as you know everyone is welcome. Keep an eye on the notice board for updates.

Just a reminder that the Border Campaign Memorial Parade, which we are hosting on behalf of the Cape Western Dugout for the 16th year running, is on Sunday 4 February at 10.15 hrs. Please make every effort to attend. See poster on page 2.

Our Monday evening dinner club will be starting as of the 1st Monday in February. Please support and remember to add your names to the list on our notice board. Thanks to those who have volunteered to help with the cooking.

### PLEASE REMEMBER TO SAVE WATER

Please bear in mind that our Moth Meeting is held on the second Monday of every month at 19.30 hrs and our hole- in-the-wall / bar / Tewksbury Arms hours are Monday and Wednesday 16.00 hrs till 20.00 hrs, Friday 16.00 hrs till 21.00 hrs and Saturdays from 13.00 hrs till 20.00 hrs

Our liquor licence is absolutely essential to the running of our shellhole and we cannot afford to lose it. It is therefore requested that parents do not allow persons under the age of 18 years to request service at the bar.


Wishing you a good year ahead.

**Yours in True Comradeship, Mutual Help and Sound Memory.**

**Billy  
The Old Bill**

### Executive Committee :

**Old Bill:** Billy Hill Tel: 082 572 5561      **Deputy O.B:** Eddie Kruger Tel: 082 808 0173  
**Adjutant:** Robert Lea Tel: 083 285 7125      **PayBill:** Kevin Love Tel: 082 928 2205



# **THE BORDER CAMPAIGN MEMORIAL PARADE CAPE WESTERN DUGOUT**

**CELEBRATING THE 16<sup>TH</sup> YEAR OF BORDER CAMPAIGN PARADES**

**TO COMMEMORATE THOSE WHO PAID THE SUPREME  
SACRIFICE WHILE SERVING OUR COUNTRY**

**A PARADE WILL BE LED BY THE CAPE FIELD ARTILLERY DRUMS  
AND PIPE BAND THROUGH THE STREETS OF BERGVLIET  
FOLLOWED BY A MEMORIAL SERVICE  
TO BE HELD AT DAWN PATROL MOTH SHELLHOLE  
20 CHILDREN'S WAY, BERGVLIET**

**SUNDAY 4 FEBRUARY 2018**

**@ 10H00 FOR 10H30**

**GUEST SPEAKER: CMDT I J JOUBERT (4 REC)**

**DAWN PATROL WILL BE OPEN FROM 09H00**

**BREAKFAST, TEA, LUNCH AND REFRESHMENTS WILL BE  
AVAILABLE**

**ALL WELCOME**

**DRESS CODE: MOTHS - FULL MOTH KIT WITH MEDALS**

**VISITORS - BLAZER WITH COLLAR AND TIE**

# The first South African warship to visit the USA

Submitted by Eddie Ball

The Statue of Liberty as seen from the “grey ambassador” SAS President Kruger on a “flag showing” exercise. In this historic cruise the SAS President Kruger also became the first South African Navy ship to visit the United States of America.



The SAS President Kruger was invited to participate in the 200th anniversary of the independence of the USA in 1976. The trip was not without controversy. Due to policies of Apartheid diplomatic relations between the Republic of South Africa and the United States of America were very strained by mid 1976. However militarily speaking South Africa was supporting USA policies in Angola, and assisting CIA covert missions in the region just six months previously.

This meant that South Africa only received a last-minute invitation to send a warship to the USA. One of South Africa’s Flagships the President Kruger, known affectionately as the “PK” left Simon’s Town on 3 June 1976, and sailed for the USA via Walvis Bay, Abidjan and Las Palmas to Norfolk, Virginia, and sailed from there, as part of a fleet of 53 warships (representing 22 countries) to New York where a naval revue took place on 4 July.

Members of the ship’s crew participated on 6 July in a parade through the streets of New York, after which the frigate sailed to Charleston, South Carolina. From there, the ship sailed via Las Palmas to Simon’s Town (return date 6 August).

‘Grey ambassadors’ (as these warships are called on diplomatic exercises) on “flag showing” cruises are very important for international relations between countries. During this cruise to the USA the Soweto Riots began in South Africa and such was the political strain that exactly twenty years would pass before a South African grey diplomat would again visit the USA.

Unfortunately in the intervening years the SAS President Kruger was lost in a tragic accident at sea on 18 February 1982, and in 1996 the Navy’s most respected grey diplomat, SAS Drakensberg would return to the USA.

The Drakensberg left Simon’s Town on 14 June 1996 and participated with approximately 25 other warships from seventeen countries in naval manoeuvres, referred to as “Operation Unitas”. The ship visited the large US naval base at Norfolk, Virginia, as well as New York and Newport. Here she is seen alongside Staten Island in 1996.



Posted in [The Border War - 1966 to 1989](#)

Tagged [SA Navy](#), [SADF](#), [SAS President Kruger](#), [South African Navy](#)

Reference – [South African Navy website](#) and [Wikipedia](#)



# PROPOSED FUNCTIONS

## February

Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> ~ Valentines Eve



Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> ~ Lasagna Evening

## March



Friday 16<sup>th</sup> ~ St Patrick's Day Party



Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> Human Rights Day ~ Bring & Braai / Potjie

## April

Easter Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> ~ Bring & Braai



Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> ~ Black and Bling



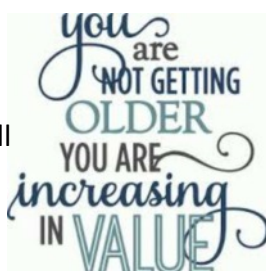
Friday 27<sup>th</sup> Freedom Day ~ Bring & Braai

# SEE NOTICE BOARD FOR DETAILS

## BIRTHDAYS

### FEBRUARY

- 14<sup>th</sup> Wayne Smith
- 16<sup>th</sup> Robert Kruger
- 20<sup>th</sup> Chris Cresswell
- 20<sup>th</sup> Ken Priday
- 24<sup>th</sup> Geoff Turner
- 25<sup>th</sup> Dave Wright
- 29<sup>th</sup> Rob Reid



### MARCH

- 1<sup>st</sup> Rob Lea
- 1<sup>st</sup> Michael Dutton
- 6<sup>th</sup> Kevin Nicholls
- 8<sup>th</sup> Paul Firstbrook
- 10<sup>th</sup> Mike Young
- 11<sup>th</sup> Gavin Withers
- 16<sup>th</sup> Adrian Hanna
- 21<sup>st</sup> Harry Harris
- 24<sup>th</sup> Stephen Bothma
- 31<sup>st</sup> Tony Askew



### APRIL

- 4<sup>th</sup> Eric Heydenrych
- 12<sup>th</sup> Brian Gombart
- 18<sup>th</sup> Kenneth Boltman
- 18<sup>th</sup> Anthony Rorich
- 23<sup>rd</sup> Geoff Evans
- 26<sup>th</sup> Anthony Liss
- 26<sup>th</sup> Peter Kenchington
- 27<sup>th</sup> William Footman

# MOTH MOTORCYCLE ASSOCIATION



The first MMA meeting for 2018 was a breakfast hosted by Dawn Patrol on Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> January 2018



**Dave Wright, Brian Gombart, Janet Praetor, Bea Burger  
and Kenneth Boltman  
Regular supporters of the Springboks**

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