

Ok ! Contact Contact Dickie Fritz Bull Sheet



July 2017 Vol 9

Dear Dickie Fritz Moths,



This month we start with exciting news – Our Old Bill, Moth Leon Apicella has just been promoted to the much cherished position of Nonno (Grandfather in Italian.) Leon and his wife Rosa received the exciting news that they are about to become grandparents for the first time in January 2018. Mom-to-be has already had a scan which shows a healthy baby who stubbornly kept those little legs crossed so at this stage the doctor is unable to advise the sex of the little one. After watching Leon interact with the little children and babies at the Dickie Fritz Moth Annual Walk in May, we can safely say he will be a devoted and doting Nonno. We would like to take this opportunity to wish the entire family our hearty congratulations.

The Announcement

On a more serious note we can advise that Moth Eddie Louw (Dickie Fritz Bar Manager) was rushed into hospital on Wednesday night (26th July) following the Resident's Fete meeting. The next day Eddie had a hernia operation and the doctors removed a blockage in his stomach. The operation was considered minor and Eddie returned home on Friday. Sadly his wife Jean had to rush Eddie back into hospital on Sunday (30th July) where he has been placed into ICU while doctors try to resolve the problem of the blockage that has again occurred in his stomach. The latest information to hand (31 July) is that the doctors still have to decide what action they will be taking, which may or may not include having a second operation.

Following the departure of Complex Manager, Moth Ron De Roche, Eddie stepped into the gap and has been running with this position over and above his job as Bar Manager. In his absence residents Dave Little and Rob Sweeting will assist with any issues pertaining to the upkeep and maintenance of the complex. We ask that you keep Eddie and Jean in your thoughts and prayers.

The Battle of Delville Wood is remembered each year in South Africa with numerous parades taking place around the country. An article of interest regarding this Battle appeared in The Witness Newspaper this month. The article, entitled "Battle of Delville Wood cross 'weeps' for fallen soldiers" was written by Chelsea Pieterse.

"A CENTURY after the 1916 World War 1 Battle of Delville Wood, where over 2 500 South African soldiers died, the wooden cross taken from there is weeping again. Surviving South African soldiers brought back timber from the woods that they fashioned into three crosses placed in Durban, Cape Town and Pietermaritzburg's Remembrance Garden.



Almost every year for a century, the timber cross standing in Pietermaritzburg weeps sap from the end of June until the end of July, the time in which the battle took place.

During World War 1, South African troops were called to assist the British in the war in the village of Longueval, France.

A statement by the SA Legion said that out of the over 4 000 troops who defended Delville Wood, only 750 survived. "The South African brigade was ordered to occupy the French wood to protect British troops who had just taken the adjacent village of Longueval," said the statement. "Shells razed the woods, slamming into trees at a rate of 400 per minute and leaving only a few tree stumps intact."

The phenomenon of the weeping cross, according to the South African Legion, has been examined by the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research, the Forestry Department and the University of KwaZulu-Natal. "No rational explanation can be found for why the pine cross still oozes sap," said a statement by the Legion. "The phenomenon baffles forestry experts as it is unusual for wood to continue producing resin for such a long time."

It has been suggested by scientists, according to the Legion, that the cold weather around this time of the year causes the wood to shrink, forcing resin out. South African Legion and the Memorable Order of Tin Hats (Moth) committee member Dean Arnold said that although a legend said the cross would stop weeping when the last survivor of the battle died, the cross continues to weep after the last soldier died years ago."



In Johannesburg the Delville Wood Parade was held at The View in Parktown on 16th July and was once again a great success. Various military veteran associations took part, including various Moth Shellholes, one of which was Dickie Fritz Shellhole. Pictured on the left are Moth Dave Little, Mothwa Liz Little, Moth Rob Sweeting and Mothwa Elaine Sweeting, who attended the parade. Following the parade everyone enjoyed a social get together at the Transvaal Scottish, including our very own Wee Bill, Moth Peter Allan (pictured on the right).



Not surprisingly, tickets for the Dickie Fritz Mothwa Annual "Christmas in July" Luncheon were sold out. The event took place in the hall on Sunday 23rd July and was a roaring success.

It was great to see the synergy as we watched all the Mothwa ladies working so well together in the kitchen and bar, ensuring that everything went off as planned, resulting in an incredibly enjoyable day. The food was absolutely fantastic, with many people going back for second helpings

of all three of the superb courses. A delicious and creamy Butternut and Orange Soup was served as a Starter, with an alternative of quiches being served for those that do not eat soup. The Main Course was the traditional Christmas turkey and gammon served with roast potatoes and seasonal veggies and a variety of the Desserts were served to finish an excellent spread.





Lady Billie Daphne Hodgson thanking everyone



A fantastic array of prizes were up for grabs



Everyone enjoying a superb luncheon

The ever competent Sgt Major Moth Jorge De Jesus acted as MC and did a sterling job of handing out the great prizes that were up for grabs. Moth Steve Prophet and his wife Dana entertained everyone throughout the afternoon singing gentle ballads and Christmas songs which added to the Christmas ambience. The quick upbeat of the music after the meal finished created a great vibe and had many of the guests joining in and singing. Congratulations to all the Mothwa for a brilliant event, we can't wait until next year's "Christmas in July" Luncheon.



Dickie Fritz Shellhole member, Moth Steve Prophet, has had an eventful 9 months that would have tested the patience of Job from the Bible. On 9th November 2016 Gauteng suffered devastating floods, with Edenvale being one of the worst hit areas. Numerous businesses in Eastleigh, a suburb of Edenvale, were extensively damaged after the Eastleigh Spruit burst its banks. Steve, CEO of the Fluid Power Group of Companies, has his offices based in Central Avenue right next to the Eastleigh Spruit. Fortunately Steve was at his offices when the storm broke and was able to ensure that none of his staff were injured. However he was unable to prevent the severe damage that was caused by the water rising to well over a metre high in his workshops and offices. His companies suffered millions of rands worth of damage but within days he was actively cleaning up the area and rebuilding a wall that collapsed under the pressure of the raging waters.

During this time Steve worked closely with his insurance company and at first things looked as if everything would be resolved. Unfortunately a few weeks after the 9th November floods, it rained again, resulting in the Eastleigh Spruit overflowing and breaking down the wall Steve had just rebuilt. Once again a claim had to be submitted for the damage caused. On 24th May 2017 the Fluid Power Group of Companies received a letter from its insurance provider to inform the company to remedy the spruit and if it failed to do so, the insurance provider would no longer cover storm or spruit-related claims.

Failing to receive any assistance from the Ekurhuleni Metro Municipality (EMM) to have the Eastleigh Spruit cleared and repaired, Steve took the bold step of taking the matter to the High Court. The High Court handed down a ruling in Steve's favour on 22 June 2017 granting his company the authority to remediate part of the Eastleigh Spruit at the Ekurhuleni Metro Municipality's cost if the metro fails to do so. It was decided by the court that EMM had to provide a solution on how to remedy the Eastleigh Spruit within seven days of the ruling.

According to Gerhard Human, the attorney representing Fluid Power, the metro is compelled to rectify and repair the riverbed and river walls. The EMM was compelled to take all necessary steps to prevent any flooding of the 'river' to Fluid Powers' premises and were ordered by the court to provide feedback to Fluid Power on how the spruit would be rectified.

Despite this ruling, the municipality failed to adhere to the deadline set by the court. Steve expressed disappointment at the response from EMM, which was only presented to the company on July 5, well after the June 29 deadline determined by the High Court. The response stated that EMM had applied for disaster funding but had not received any. It added that the flood had not been budgeted for and the estimated cost to remedy the spruit is almost R100 million.

However, to remedy the spruit, funds first need to be generated during the budget review in January next year. Depending on whether funding is granted or not EMM can then appoint contractors to begin work in April 2018.



Based on the response from EMM Steve has since, with the assistance of Fluid Power's legal counsel and Edenvale ward councillors, held a meeting with Eastleigh businesses on July 12 at the Edenvale Chamber of Commerce. The meeting was held to assist other businesses which faced similar problems with the spruit. During the meeting Steve pointed out that his company building won't last the next rainy season and that he was put in a position where he had to take drastic action. He pointed out that something needs to be done about the spruit before the rainy season begins.

After obtaining quotes, Steve was able to advise that it will cost about R763 000 to repair the spruit. This would entail installing a length of gabions, 41 metres long and 3.3 metres high, along the spruit.

Sadly the saga continues and Steve plans to enter the next step of legal action against the EMM. Steve, we wish you well in your battle against the EMM.

BIRTHDAYS

We would like to wish the following Shellhole members a very happy birthday for August. May the coming year overflow with love, laughter, joy, friendship and many enjoyable hours spent at Dickie Fritz.

Vernon Prinsloo (4th), Louis Nel (4th), Johnny Potgieter (5th), Bill Coleman (10th), Pieter Croukamp (14th), Tony Webster (20th), Kevin Barron (24th), Gary Huxham (28th), Kelvin Luke (29th) and Rob Jeffries (31st).

UPCOMING EVENTS



On 2nd September the RLI will be hosting their Annual Patrons day and Operation Uric Memorial Saturday. The day will start off with a parade at 10h00 for 10h30. The Ridgeback Bar will open at 11h45. They are adding a beer and cold drinks only station "Lion's Den" in the beer garden to take pressure off the queuing at the Ridgeback bar which will serve beer, cold drinks and shorts as normal.

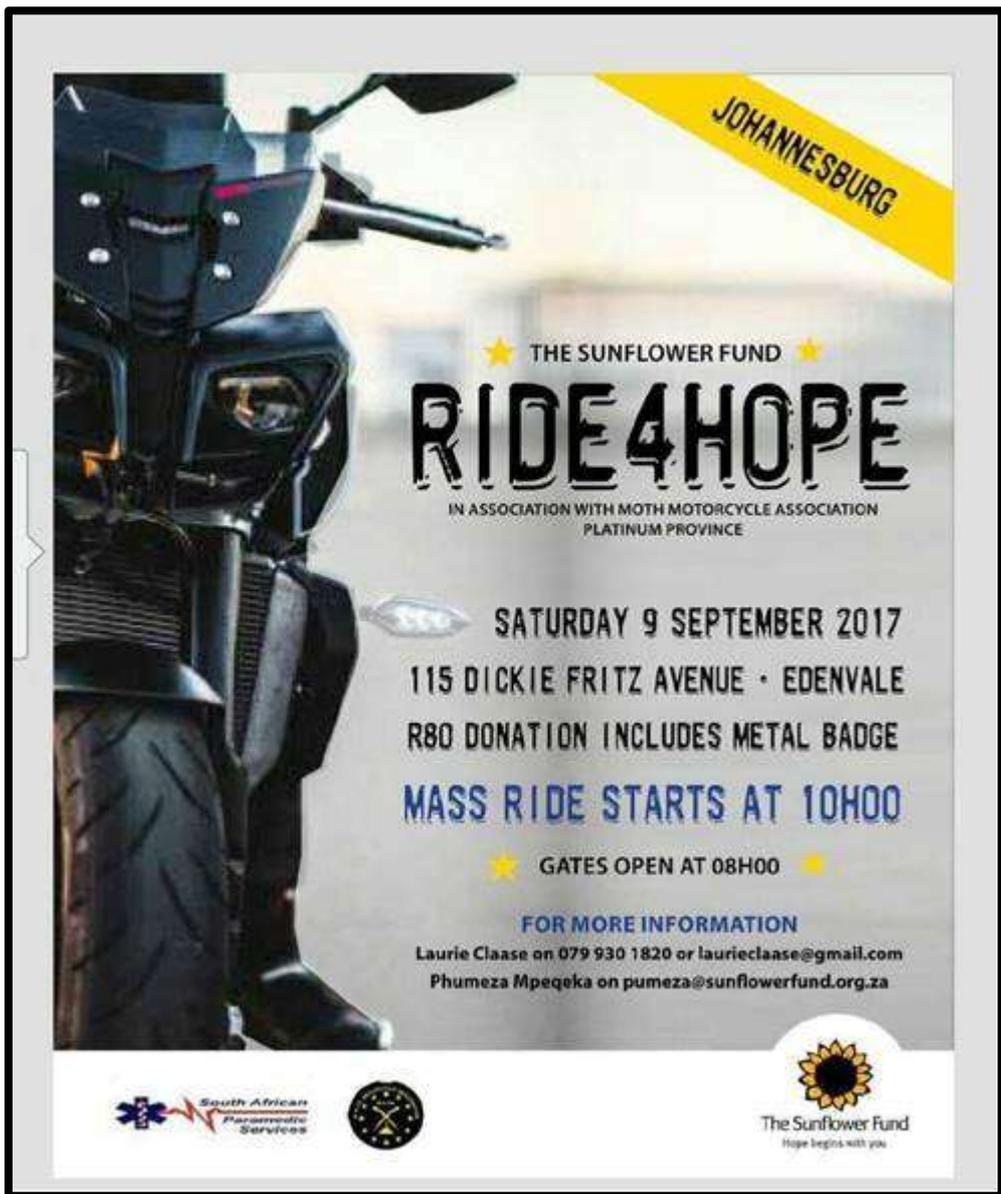
At 13h00 lunch will be served. R100.00 per plate gets you a Prego steak roll, peri – peri chicken piece, spicy rice and a 2M beer. All funds raised go to RLI Welfare.

From 15h00 various raffles including a Portuguese hamper, 50/50 boards and an auction will be held.

Braai fires will be available throughout the afternoon and into the early evening for those who want to do their own braaing.

The RLI QM will have a wide variety of books, shirts, badges and other items for sale. Credit cards are accepted so please get to the QM store situated at The Ridgeback bar and beer garden.

On the 9th September the MMA will once again be hosting their Annual Ride 4 Hope. Come and join us for a great event. Plenty of food will be on sale and of course the bar will be open to enjoy a some well priced drinks.



The poster features a close-up of a motorcycle helmet on the left side. A yellow diagonal banner in the top right corner reads "JOHANNESBURG". The main title "RIDE 4 HOPE" is in large, bold, black letters, with "THE SUNFLOWER FUND" above it and "IN ASSOCIATION WITH MOTH MOTORCYCLE ASSOCIATION PLATINUM PROVINCE" below it. The event details are listed in the center: "SATURDAY 9 SEPTEMBER 2017", "115 DICKIE FRITZ AVENUE • EDENVALE", "R80 DONATION INCLUDES METAL BADGE", and "MASS RIDE STARTS AT 10H00". Below this, it says "GATES OPEN AT 08H00". At the bottom, contact information is provided: "FOR MORE INFORMATION", "Laurie Claase on 079 930 1820 or laurieclaase@gmail.com", and "Phumeza Mpekeka on pumeza@sunflowerfund.org.za". Logos for "South African Paramedic Services", a circular emblem, and "The Sunflower Fund" are at the bottom.

JOHANNESBURG

★ THE SUNFLOWER FUND ★

RIDE 4 HOPE

IN ASSOCIATION WITH MOTH MOTORCYCLE ASSOCIATION
PLATINUM PROVINCE

SATURDAY 9 SEPTEMBER 2017
115 DICKIE FRITZ AVENUE • EDENVALE
R80 DONATION INCLUDES METAL BADGE
MASS RIDE STARTS AT 10H00

★ GATES OPEN AT 08H00 ★

FOR MORE INFORMATION
Laurie Claase on 079 930 1820 or laurieclaase@gmail.com
Phumeza Mpekeka on pumeza@sunflowerfund.org.za

South African Paramedic Services

The Sunflower Fund
Hope begins with you

Have a great month and don't forget that if you want to advertise any services or have items to sell, we will happily include the information in the upcoming Bull Sheet. Contact Adjutant Moth Cheryl Grover for further information.

Leon and Cheryl

Adverts

MOTORCYCLE FUEL TANKS REPAIRED / RELINED

Damaged Fuel Tanks Repaired - Sandblasting, lead loading then primed.

Motorcycle Fuel Tanks Relined – Rust is removed from inside fuel tank.

When tank is cleaned, the inside is then lined with a Sealant.

Classic Fuel Tanks are also repaired and relined.



Before and After repair

MOTORCYCLE EXHAUSTS - MAKE UPS & REPAIRS

Exhaust Make ups on Four-Stroke Motorcycles & Quads - Stainless or Mild

Exhausts Repairs on Four-Stroke Motorcycles & Quads



CLASSIC MOTORCYCLE ACCESSORIES - MAKE UP AND REPAIR

Make up - Exhaust Systems, Storage Bins, Number Plate Holders, Oil Tanks

Repair - Exhaust Systems, Headlight Holders, Primary Chain Guards, Fenders, Oil Tanks

Repair & Reline - Fuel Tanks



For all of the above, contact Andre 072 456 6161. COLLECT AND DELIVER ANYWHERE IN GAUTENG!!

