



THE PIP-ACK POST

NEWSLETTER OF PIP-ACK SHELLHOLE

JULY 2022 EDITION

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Birthdays ~ July 2022

Johan De Beer - 1st July

Andre Van Breda - 7th July

Glenn Von Zeil - 20th July

WARNING ORDER

**The monthly meetings are held on the second Sunday of the month at
10:00 - please diarise and attend.**

- Meeting in July : 10 July 2022 @10:00
- Jubilee Dinner : August 2022 – Date still to be announced
- Delville Wood Memorial Service - 31 July 2022
- Cape Town Welsh Choir Practice is every Wednesday night. Shellhole and Bunker is open.
- Pip-Ack Shellhole AGM is scheduled for 14 August 2022 at 10:00.

MONEY MATTERS

For those members who do not pay their subscription fees by monthly instalments, the fees will be due and payable in July for the fy 22/23. Members are requested to make provision for payment when requested by the Pay Bill. Please do not pre-pay your fees before the Pay Bill has requested payment.

Shellhole Bank Account Details

Bank : Standard Bank, Account type : Society Scheme Savings Account

Branch: Milnerton, Universal Branch Code: 051001 Account Number: 076110656

MOTH95



Cape Western Provincial Dugout arranged a raffle to sponsor the MOTH 95th celebrations in Cape Town. The prize being a stay in the beautiful MOTH Bakoven Cottages in Bakoven. The winning ticket number was No 554, which was issued to Pro Patria Shellhole (Durbanville) and the winning ticket was purchased by Moth Leon van der Vyver, Adjutant at Komesho Shellhole (Wellington).

“JUBILEE DINNER”

As for all organizations, the Pip-Ack Shellhole is lubricated by funds. Bearing in mind that next year will be the 95th Anniversary of the oldest shellhole in the country, nl Pip-Ack and should be celebrated in some befitting way. Times are hard for everyone, and it would be unfair and counterproductive to expect “cold” donations only. Fundraising should benefit those that give as well as those that receive. It has been common knowledge that the Shellhole has been kept going largely by such “cold” donations for which there is great gratitude, in keeping with the old Chinese adage that “when the sky falls, the tallest of us will hold it up”. Ever mindful of this the top table has put their heads together to generate ideas for raising funds to the benefit of all, i.e the Shellhole and those whose hard-earned money goes to it. A principal decision was made that a series of events be held as fundraisers where some value is given for the funds raised. One of these fundraisers is the resurrection

of the past Pip-Ack tradition of celebrating a “Jubilee Dinner” type of function. An appropriate notice will be posted in due course.

Caveat : To be successful we need to fill all the 60 seats the event is limited to, and we sincerely hope that members, their families and friends will fill the hall at Pip-Ack. Please be aware that because of the challenges presented by catering and finances in these difficult times, we ask those who wish to attend to commit themselves early and once committed they should not expect a refund for a “no show”. *Temporibus lenta sunt!* (Times are tough!).

WARRIORS GATE RECEIVES BOFOR GUN

A new acquisition to Warrior's Gate, 40mm Anti-Aircraft Bofors Gun. Moth Thys and Moth Hendry from Sandy Shellhole (Vanderbijlpark) arrived around 2pm (being on the road from 4am) We completed the offload and assembly around 17h30. Phase two of 5 complete regarding static displays planned.



Bofors (L40/60) - 40mm Anti-Aircraft gun at its new home “Warriors Gate” Durban



Moth Thys and Hendry from Sandy Shellhole, with a certificate confirming the completed hand order of the Bofors from Warrior Shellhole



Moth Mike Lee hand over the certificate to Moth Thys

The Bofor was originally from Warrior Shellhole (Roodepoort). Sandy Shellhole claimed the Crusader Tank and asked for the Bofor as well for their collection. They had 2 identical Bofor guns and were keen to do a swap and ensure that one of the Sandy Bofors got delivered to Warriors Gate at no cost. Thanks, very much Sandy Shellhole!!

WINE RAFFLE



MOTH Glenn Von Zeil : winner of the Pip-Ack wine raffle held on 12 June 2022, explaining how he intended to transform his prize into a "dead soldier"

DELVILLE WOOD

The Dellville Wood memorial Service will be held in The Gardens at the Delville Wood Memorial on 31 July 2022. All are welcome.



George Rusell, 70, left, met up with World War 1 veterans Mr Peter Coetzee, 98, Mr Ben Crouss and Mr Reg Linden, 92, at a Delville Wood Memorial Service in the Gardens on George Rusell, 70, left, met up with World War 1 veterans Mr Peter Coetzee, 98, Mr Ben Crouss and Mr Reg Linden, 92, at a Delville Wood Memorial Service in the Gardens 21 July 1991.

DID YOU KNOW?

RED SOCK FRIDAY. Many veterans wear red socks on Friday in South Africa. It is an international practice started by South Africans. How did this come about, you ask?

As legend goes... the original 'red sockers' were Sidney Feinson and two fellow South African friends who, whilst being held captive in a prisoner of war camp in Italy during the Second World War, made a pact that should they make it back home alive, they would wear red socks to remember each other and always 'be together', wherever they may be in the world.

Inspired by this story, two young South African friends John Mcinroy and Ian Symons, who sought a way to honour their own friendship back in 2007, decided in the spirit of remembering each other to wear red socks each Friday to be together, no matter where life or their hearts would take them.

And so red sock Friday (also known as shooops!) Was born, but over the years it has come to mean so much more to all who have chosen to put on a pair of red socks...

In a world of disconnection, it's a simple act that allows us to feel connected to each other. When we wear red socks, we consciously acknowledge special connections near and far, as well as remember loved ones no longer with us.

It is in this spirit that many Veterans in South Africa have chosen to wear Red Socks on a Friday, to constantly honour and remember one another (and the fallen). There are many opportunities to remember the fallen but few ways of remembering the survivors of conflict.

So now you know!

(Footnote: Interestingly, this spirit has gripped both veterans and sportsmen and women young and old who feel the need for this comradely connection.)



See also :

https://www.flowsa.com/news/the_story_behind_the_socks

<https://www.facebook.com/redsocksfriday/>

<https://allthingsjabu.co.za/red-sock-fridays/>

TAILPIECE

HANS - GEORGE HENKE

This well-known wartime photo taken in 1945 by the American photojournalist John Florea of a 16-year-old German anti-aircraft soldier of the Hitler Youth, Hans-Georg Henke, crying after being captured by the Allies in 1945.



Hans-Georg Henke in 1945



Hans-Georg Henke later in life.

Florea explained that Henke was not crying because his world has fallen apart, but because of combat shock. His unit was captured, and his fate was sealed. He went on to live a full life but had to change his story so the communist party in East Germany would not suspect him as they viewed anyone who was captured by the Americans as a potential threat as he ended up joining the communist party. He passed away in 1997.

For the sake of brevity, his story and more photos may be viewed at <https://rarehistoricalphotos.com/hans-georg-henke-16-year-old-german-soldier-crying/>

HUMOUR IN UNIFORM

