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Department:
Defence
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



JOHANNESBURG REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION ACTIVITIES

by Harry van Staden Lt. Col(Ret)

The Johannesburg Regimental Association held a planning session during February 2013 to plan the year and decide on the various activities that it would like to participate in. The obvious objective of such an event is to ensure that these events are evenly spread over the calendar year. So much for good intentions! The combined efforts of an over exuberant committee and a Golf Day that rained out in April ensured that the third quarter was an extremely busy and eventful one.

Golf Day

The annual golf day was planned for April, and a lot of effort and hard work went into the planning and recruitment of four balls. The only thing the committee could not plan for was the unseasonal torrential rains that lashed Gauteng for a whole week. The result was inevitable, and on the morning the day was called off.



To make up for our disappointment the committee decided to spend a little time together in the club house just to adapt our plans and find a new date. At three o' clock that afternoon a slightly unsteady procession left the clubhouse after a marathon "meeting". The new date was set, and all was good.

Saturday 17 August dawned, and turned out to be a glorious day. The committee at Crown Club was ready for us, and our 21 four balls started registering on time. The first guys teed off at 11h20, and the last ones stumbled in at 18:10 that afternoon. Everyone confirmed that they had a wonderful time and promised (or rather threatened) to be back next year. The day was supported by our wonderful sponsors, and the principal sponsor, Interconnect Systems went all out to make it a day to remember.



The opportunity was also well used to explain to the guests how the Reserve Force operates, why it is important to support it and what contributions the Regiment has made over the past year. It was very well received. In the picture below Harry van Staden performs his sales job.



Best dressed Four Ball



Picnic In the Park

Most of the committee barely had time to recover and get some sleep, before we had to report at the Gun Park for the MAG Picnic. It turned out to be a lovely day, and was enjoyed by all. We wish to congratulate Kevin Townsend and his team on a brilliant day. From an Association point of view, it was a great day for us as we had in excess of 35 people attending. Particularly pleasing was the fact that we were joined by some of the next generation youngsters, who were young enough to not understand everything, but more to the point, too old to be forced to attend!

Below: JRA “squatters”





Old Timers de Lux!

Guest Evening

To round off a fairly busy quarter three the Association also hosted a guest evening in its newly renovated Museum. In contrast with other functions where marketing and fund raising are priorities, this function was planned exclusively to lure ex members of Johannesburg Regiment back to the Association. It was held on Monday 09 September and although it was a modest start by JRA standards, it was successful in the sense that the evening witnessed the return of a few prodigal sons. All of them were in the Regiment in different years, and as such have access to different peer groups. Based on their feedback, this may become a quarterly institution to guarantee the continued growth of the Regimental Association. Apart from re-activation of ex- members, the Association will also start focusing on the so called “next generation” to ensure the Regiment and the Association will benefit from a constant feeding of younger blood.



After much effort, the group was orderly enough to actually take a picture!

The Association is very satisfied with the activities concluded in quarter 3, and is already planning the last quarter of the year. The Association meets once a month on a Monday and tries to have at least 2 or three activities per quarter. The next project is a Facebook Page, which will make it easier to communicate with interested parties all over the country. Please look out for it, and get active.