



## **Transvaal Horse Artillery hosts Horse Gunners' Tiddler at Mount Collins Military Base**

Article and photographs by Capt Jacques de Vries

The Acting Officer Commanding of the Transvaal Horse Artillery (THA), 2Lt E.I. Kgori, hosted a Horse Gunners' Tiddler at the unit's Regimental Headquarters on the evening of 23 March 2018, in the stead of THA Officer Commanding, Maj S.R. Ngwenya, who is currently occupied on course. The well attended occasion was utilised to celebrate THA's 114th birthday, marked on 17 March 1904. This Reserve Force artillery regiment's Adjutant, 2Lt V.O. Ngema, gave the welcome and a brief outline of THA's heritage, followed by a short address delivered by 2Lt Kgori.



[THA Adjutant 2Lt V.O. Ngema opens the evening's proceedings](#)

The Chief of the South African National Defence Force (SANDF) Reserves, Maj Gen R.C. Andersen was present in his capacity as Honorary Colonel of THA, of which he was the Commandant from 1976 to 1979. Gen Andersen spoke briefly to the assembled friends, officers and other ranks of the regiment, before handing over to Col (Ret) Ivor Rimmer of the South African Delville Wood Commemorative Museum Trust. Col Rimmer elaborated from personal experience on the traditions stemming from the artillery, and regaled guests of the proper definition and evolution of the term "Horse Gunner".



THA Honorary Colonel, Maj Gen R.C. Andersen



Col (Ret) I. Rimmer

The regiment is presently equipped with the six wheeled G6 self-propelled 155mm gun-howitzer, while its predecessors of years past bore their light, fast moving and firing two wheeled gun carriage mounted artillery pieces into battle drawn by horses.



THA's Acting Officer Commanding, 2Lt E.I. Kgori proposing a toast

A toast to the unit's birthday and to fallen South African gunners was followed by fellowship and camaraderie until late. To the Gunners – Ubique.



Friends and members of the regiment socialising in the Officers' Mess