

JACARANDA

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PRETORIA COUNTRY CLUB
MAGAZINE

ISSUE 9
2019



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2020

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IMPORTANT CONTACT DETAILS

RECEPTION OPERATING HOURS

012 460 6241/2/3/4
Monday: 07h00 – 18h00
Tuesday to Saturday: 07h00 – 19h00
Sunday: 08h00 – 17h00

OFFICE OPERATING HOURS

012 460 6241/2/3/4
Monday to Thursday: 08h00 – 16h30
Friday: 08h00 – 16h00

PRO SHOP/ GOLF DIRECTORS

012 460 3372
proshop@ptacc.co.za
atholdowie@absamail.co.za

GOLF MANAGER

golfops@ptacc.co.za

N9NE CATERING

012 346 1707
events@n9ne.co.za

BLU SAFFRON

012 346 0223/4
blusaffron@mweb.co.za

You can contact any of the management team or make an appointment with them. They are situated in the main clubhouse on the premises.

PRIVACY POLICY

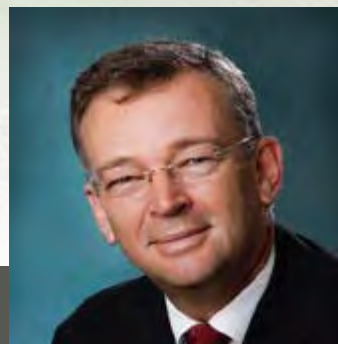
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MESSAGE

From the chairman

Dawid Muller



Dear Member,

I write my first article for Jacaranda as a proud supporter of the Rugby World Cup champions! A journey that started with a disappointing loss on 21 September 2019 against the All Blacks ended with a convincing record-breaking victory against the English on 2 November 2019. Our team is back on top of the world! And what was just as amazing, was the experience of joining up to 400 fellow supporters (per match) in the Pavilion to watch game for game, the Springboks' journey to world cup glory. Trevor Noah tweeted recently, "To say we're proud would be an understatement," and certainly the tears I saw in many of our members' eyes when the final whistle blew, certainly attest to that. I was equally proud of how popular our facilities became in just a few weeks. The World Cup certainly showed that we have great potential to attract social and other members to the club.

It is hard to believe that we are approaching the end of 2019. It seemed like yesterday when I accepted the Chairmanship and we thanked our previous Chairman, Nicky Bloem for his three years of dedication and exemplary leadership. 12 June 2019 is a date I will never forget. The day I had the honour of becoming the Chairman of Pretoria Country Club at its 109th Annual General Meeting. I am deeply moved by this expression of confidence by the outgoing Chairman and my fellow committee members. I am truly honoured by the trust that they have instilled in me and I am ready to continue my work for the members of PCC in this capacity.

I am fortunate to welcome as my Vice-Chairman a true club man and hard-working committee member, Louw Massyn. Like me, Louw believes strongly in a consultative leadership style. We plan to consult

widely and tap into the experience and knowledge of our members, past Chairpersons, the management team and experts to ensure that we make PCC not only sustainable but in the words of Julius Jeppe, a true haven for friendship, camaraderie, sportsmanship, family and integrity.

Louw and I are encouraged to be joined by an experienced group of elected Main Committee members. Congratulations to five members of last year's Main Committee (Jan Van Der Merwe, Henry Human, Johan Mook, Johan Van Der Bergh and Dirk Venter) on your re-election and please accept my appreciation for your willingness to continue your work for the members of PCC. The experience of the committee is further enhanced through the re-election of last year's sport section captains. Congratulations go to Louw Van Wyk (Golf), Louis Marais (Tennis), Piet Jordaan (Squash) and George Wesson (Bowls) on their re-elections. All of you contributed greatly to our successes of the past year and I am looking forward to continuing this trend with your support.

Also, a special word of welcome to Margaret Trunk who returns as an elected member to the Main Committee. It also great to welcome back Charles Van Staden who returns for a second term as the Chairman of Pretoria Club.

It assists my task greatly that most of the members of this Main Committee was part of the planning of our current Strategic Plan. Most of us served when Dave Avery and Nicky Bloem were Chairmen. Together, we planned the future of the club and in the last six years, we started the implementation of the plans resulting in, amongst other things, the recent infrastructure improvements and upgrading. Much has been done in this committee's time but for me it is helpful to know that they will know that much remains to be done.

First, this Main Committee accepts that members have invested (financially and in convenience) in the club's infrastructure and that it must now be primary to ensure that the members reap the benefits of these investments. Therefore, member satisfaction will be one of my committee's and management's prime objectives in the coming years. During the past years we have managed to address outstanding maintenance matters like the dam wall, we have improved our facilities (golf course, squash courts, bowling pavilion, tennis entertainment area, the dam facilities and the restaurant area in the Pavilion). We have just improved our snooker facility. All of this was done to upgrade the membership experience and value at the club. Please use these facilities and provide us with your comments, compliments or suggestions via our administration office. You have my firm commitment that management and the





committee will listen to your concerns and ideas. We will continue to seek out and be guided by your input. I strongly believe that a satisfied and a happy member will not only remain at the club but will also become a true ambassador for our club. And in promoting the club, these members will become the best and most effective new member recruiters.

Secondly and in line with the member experience, the committee must strive to improve the club's revenue streams. We must find more seeds for revenue growth. The club's operational costs unfortunately continue to escalate because of the volatility of certain cost items (electricity, rates, fuel and equipment) and the days are gone to simply place the burden on the member by pushing up subscription fees to balance the books.

As you know, we have already implemented a strategy to reduce capital spend over the next couple of years to boost the reserves. Unfortunately, this strategy will not be enough and may not be sustainable in a club environment where member growth and retention are increasingly challenging. Committees must today efficiently sweat the assets of a club to the benefit of the members. We as the main governing body of the club have embraced this strategy a few years ago and will continue to do so during my tenure.

We are making good progress with restoring our golf calendar to maximum capacity (more about this in the Manager's report) but both the Main and Golf Committees accept that there is room for improvement with the general golf experience at our club. However, after the recent Captain's Dinner I am encouraged that our Golf Committee is on the right track to improve the club experience for our golf members. It was a great night as usual with great food, fine wine and camaraderie. But I must

compliment, Louw Van Wyk and his team for inviting two exceptional speakers. Our two golf directors, Sybrand Van Der Spuy (42 years at PCC) and Athol Dowie (37 years at PCC) joined forces to share with the attendees the true PCC golf experience. Their memories and stories again highlighted that we are a golf club rich in tradition. A club that has a spirit fuelled by its members that included some exceptional persons like a poster making gynaecologist, a thermosensitive judge and a very creative motor car salesman. There is some talk in the club that Sybie and Athol have decided that they have reached the age of 'final independence' and may want to vacate their positions soon. I can confirm that a very exciting new initiative is being finalised for the pro shop. I can also confirm Athol's words on the night, that even though they will scale down, they both will play a role in the implementation of this initiative.

Our Ladies Golf Committee led by Tersia Pelser continues to provide the best golfing experience to our ladies. Frequently, we men are exposed to lady golfers colourfully dressed up for a predetermined theme. The sound of our ladies discussing their rounds excitedly over a glass of wine, is at times irresistibly inviting to join the festivities. I would be amiss if I do not congratulate our ladies for again hosting a very successful Smythe Cup. Their unselfish willingness to provide time and effort to ensure that we as a club host a very successful fundraising effort for children's homes in Pretoria, are appreciated by all. Please read Tersia's newsletter for more detail. It is her privilege to boast about their remarkable achievements in 2019.

Congratulations to the Squash Captain, Piet Jordaan and his committee who has for the second year captured the Woody Kaiser Trophy (best performance by a club in the Men's League). Our improved squash facilities continue to attract more and has become the preferred venue for major squash events in

our region (including the prestigious South African National Squash Championships and the SA Masters Inter Provincial Tournament). During the recent Club Championships, I was truly blown away by the quality of the squash member experience. And the recipe is simple – take great facilities add well organised competitions and social events supported by effective communication channels. Well done, Piet and your team.

Equally, I am encouraged when I pass the bowls pavilion and I am met with happy laughter of our bowls members participating in a club competition, league or coaching during a corporate event. Or just sitting on the veranda and enjoying the beauty of PCC. Throughout the week the section is a hive of activity where members enjoy themselves under the leadership of George Wesson and his team. Also, at our tennis section, the social tennis on Wednesday evening and Saturday afternoons are going from strength to strength. Louis Marais and his team have succeeded in starting the revival of the social side of club tennis. The introduction of the boma at the tennis clubhouse greatly enhanced the tennis experience and have already contributed to a few late-night get togethers around the fire under the Pretoria sky. Well done, Louis.

The Pretoria Club continues to be our social arm. Under the leadership of Charles Van Staden, we as members continue to enjoy month-end lunches, monthly draws and special events like Burns Night. The snooker room has, since its upgrade, become a very popular get together and I will advise you to book well in advance. And then there is table tennis on Monday nights in the Mardi Grass. And with all of this make sure you do not miss out on our Partnership Programme which allows a PCC member discounts from 20 suppliers. Please visit our website for details.



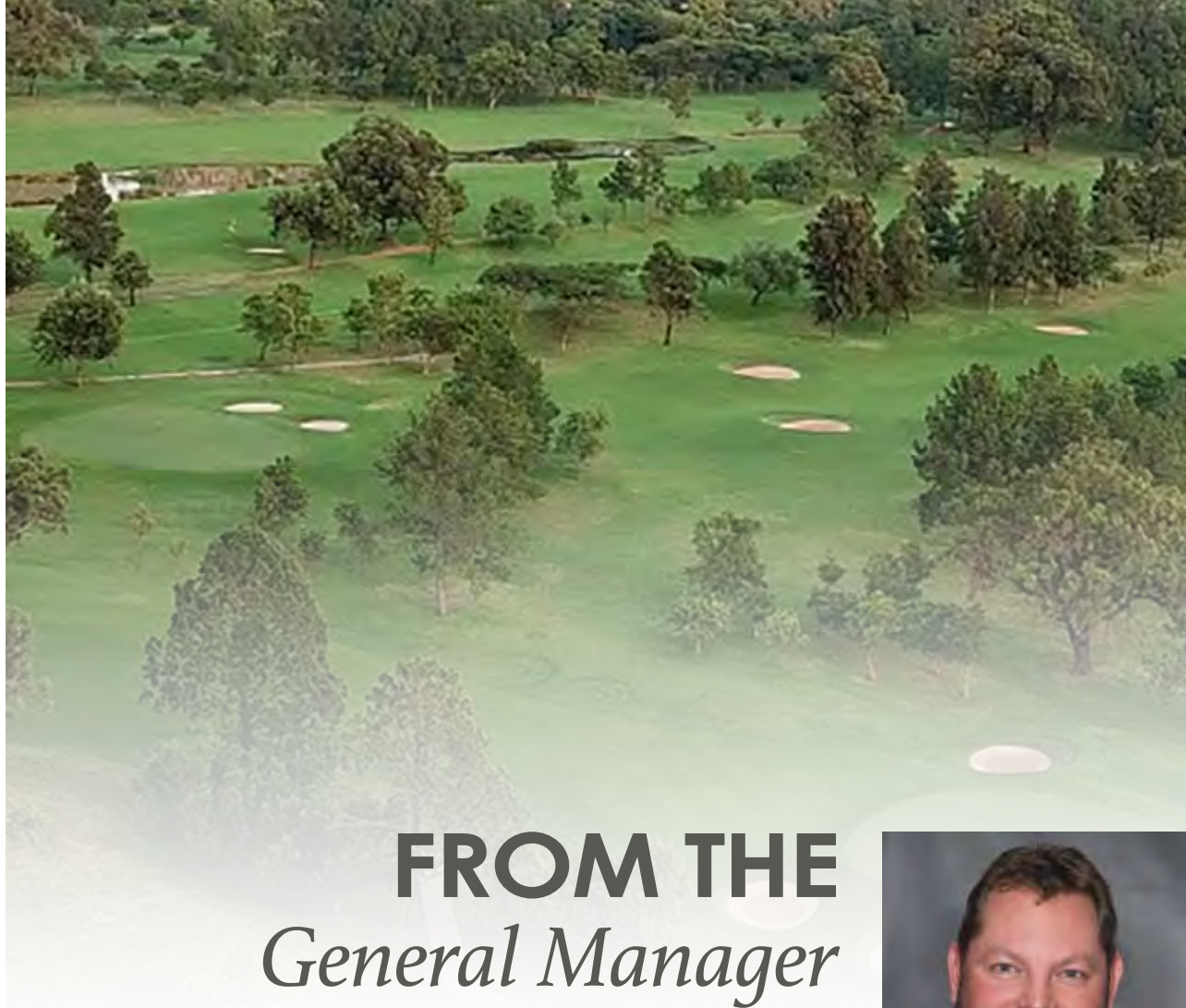
It is true. It is all happening at PCC, make it yours.

All in all, I congratulate Louw, Tersia, Piet, Louis, Charles and George on the achievements of their sections. You can be proud to lead committees who have generously given their time and effort to improve our member experience. I understand too well that membership of a committee has got nothing to do with a popularity contest. Sometimes there will be those who have much to say but fail to make an actual contribution. Your efforts to rejuvenate members' experience and attracting persons and their families willing to transform the club into a welcoming and accommodating environment, are most welcome and fully supported.

We are privileged to have the 20 partners join us in enhancing membership through the Partnership Programme. To them, all our sponsors, corporate members, suppliers and sub-contractors thank you kindly for your commitment and support. Also thank you to all our staff at PCC for your commitment, dedication and support. A special word of appreciation goes to our General manager, Vivian Van Wyk for managing the operations at the club so effectively.

Lastly, to all our members, for your continued support of our beautiful club. Thank you for choosing Pretoria Country Club as your home away from home. If you are travelling over the festive season, please do so carefully. A merry Christmas to all, and we look forward to seeing you in 2020.

Warm regards



FROM THE *General Manager*

Vivian van Wyk



Dear Member,

With this being our last edition of Jacaranda for 2019, I will mainly focus on Club Operations over the past six months. Bearing in mind that the festive season is approaching, we have aligned our summer cultural practices on the golf course to tie in with our quietest week on the golfing calendar during summer. This is done to avoid extended down time which leads to a greater loss of revenue. Our other sport sections like bowls, tennis and squash normally continue with their club operations late in December during which time the atmosphere is always festive among sectional members and a must to experience! Our operational and closing hours will be as follows:

The golf course, halfway house and pavilion will close on Monday, 23 December and re-open on Thursday, 2 January 2020 due to the annual hollow tining cultural practices as mentioned above. This hollow tining practice will be a very important process in the life of our newly established greens as it is the first hollow tining exercise and will require more time to perform than normal. Due to several public

holidays during this period, the pavilion will be closed as indicated above. **The golf shop and practice facilities will be open during the above-mentioned period apart from 25 December and 1 January 2020.** The administration office will be closed from Tuesday, 17 December 2019 and re-open on Monday, 06 January 2020. Reception and maintenance will be operative except for 25 December 2019 and 1 January 2020. **N9ne Catering's office (functions) will be closed from Sunday, 15 December 2019 and re-open on Monday, 06 January 2020. Blu Saffron will be closed from Monday, 23 December 2019 and re-open on Thursday, 02 January 2020.**

In June our Annual General Meeting was held which amongst others saw the election of a new Club Chairman and Vice-Chairman. It is my pleasure to formally welcome Dawid Muller, Chairman, and Louw Massyn, Vice-Chairman, to the Main Committee. I had the privilege of working with both gentlemen over the past four years and I can attest to their passion and commitment for Pretoria Country

Club and its members. Apart from Dawid and Louw, six previous Main Committee members stood for election. The only nomination received was that of Margaret Truck. All committee members were duly elected. With the five sectional heads, the Main Committee consists of fourteen members in total. It is an honour to serve Pretoria Country Club and I would therefore like to thank the members of Main Committee for their devotion to this beautiful club.

After the first seven months of trade (March – September), the club is in a sound financial position. Bearing in mind we opened our newly resurfaced greens in December 2018 after which there was limited time to engage with corporate golf day sponsors, I am satisfied with our financial results to-date. Total golf rounds are up by 3% with playing fees 6% better than budget. This is a reflection of the pristine condition of our golf course after the successful greens resurfacing project. Barring one unforeseen expense item early in the new financial year, nett profit before capex is in line with budget. Should we not incur any further unforeseen expenses, I am confident that we will reach our annual financial targets by the end of February 2020.

From a capital expense point of view, our strategy was to reduce capital expenditure in order to start restoring cash reserves. We therefore only provided for the final payment of the resurfacing project in the current financial year as a capital expense item. Increased operating profits over the first three months however allowed for completing extra-ordinary maintenance projects like repairs of the driving

range infrastructure that was overdue. By the time of reading this article, our security infrastructure should also be upgraded which allows for far better monitoring and access protocol of vehicles. I am sure you will agree with me that in this day and age, incomparable security procedures and infrastructure are required to ensure our safety which is why this project was identified as the next priority to be implemented.

Please read through each sub-section of the club's articles for more news on sectional activities.

As part of the club's Strategic Business Plan, our vision remains to be the Country Club of choice for the residents of the greater Pretoria area who require an outstanding bowls, golf, squash and tennis experience supported by a unique social and family environment. I would like to say that the management of this club, together with our governing body, the Main Committee, remains dedicated in ensuring that our vision will triumph.

In closing, I would like to thank all our members for your continued and loyal support of Pretoria Country Club. It is an honour for me to serve you as General Manager. For those that are travelling during the festive season, please do so safely as I look forward to welcoming you in 2020.

Joyous festive season greetings.



AVBOB: 101 YEARS OF SHARING VALUE AND VALUES

In 2006, American strategy experts Michael Porter and Mark Kramer raised the profile of “shared value” business models in an article they authored for the Harvard Business Review. Since then, the concept of “creating shared value” has become not so much a buzzword as the increasingly loud voice of corporate conscience for the sake of all concerned.

Unpacking this paradigm-shifting model within the context of South Africa’s socio-economic landscape, it is clear that **AVBOB** started practising in 1918 what Porter and Kramer started preaching in 2006.

“Shared value is a fundamental business strategy that makes social needs the object of value creation.” – Marc Pfitzer

The resurgence in interest in shared value business models was forged in the crucible of the 2008 financial crisis, where many accused big business of earning obscene profits at the expense of society. While **AVBOB**’s humble beginnings were also rooted in pain, its founding purpose was for the benefit – not the detriment – of its members.

To understand **AVBOB**’s compassionate roots, one has to go back to the Spanish Flu epidemic that arrived in South Africa in the wake of the First World War. This caused countless deaths and infinite trauma, both emotional and financial, with many families unable to afford dignified funerals. It was amidst this death and trauma that the original founders of **AVBOB** stepped forward with a solution: a business started by a community for the upliftment of the community.

From day one, the concept of uplifting their members has been not only **AVBOB**’s guiding force, but part of their corporate DNA. In addition, **AVBOB** believes that shared value is not a feel-good strategy they have adopted to gain competitive advantage or to improve their corporate image. It is fundamentally who they are. And it is not a one-size-fits-all solution.

Underpinning their commitment to shared value is a deep understanding that each continent and country has its own challenges, which is perhaps why it embraces the one term that perfectly encapsulates the core of creating shared value at the southernmost tip of Africa: “ubuntu”. Ubuntu, in the words of the late, great Nelson Mandela, is “the profound sense that we are human only through the humanity of others; that if we are to accomplish anything in this world, it will in equal measure be due to the work and achievement of others.”

Recognising the wide disparity of income and wealth distribution in South Africa and our responsibility to all citizens, **AVBOB** is deeply invested in the concept and reality of connectedness through caring and sharing. Informing everything they do, is their understanding of the reality that the costs associated with funeral preparations can often deplete savings and drive families into debt. Without access to financial markets and without meaningful participation in economic growth, the cycle

of poverty is never broken. And so, never before has **AVBOB** had a more relevant role to play in South African society than today.

AVBOB’s shared value business model is rooted in its status as a “mutual society”. As a mutual, it has no shareholders. The profits that arise from the various businesses in the Group are deployed solely for the benefit of its members (who are its policyholders).

As strong as **AVBOB**’s commitment to their policyholders is their passion for improving literacy in South Africa. **AVBOB** is actively engaged in the communities in which they operate. To date, they have donated 55 container libraries to underprivileged schools, with five more to follow. **AVBOB** has pledged to invest R150 million to the refurbishment and upgrading of rural schools in partnership with the Department of Basic Education. And on the economic front, **AVBOB** funeral branches procure services from the local communities, thus stimulating local economies.

What distinguishes **AVBOB**’s initiatives from CSI and moves it into the broader sphere of shared value, is arguably the fact that they are boosting the economic engines of tomorrow by improving the lives of all stakeholders – from policyholders and learners to entrepreneurs – today.

“A company cannot succeed in a society that is failing.” – Sanda Ojiambo

Equally important and ultimately crucial is **AVBOB**’s positioning of itself as a company that is part of the solution, not part of the problem. As a country with a renewed sense of optimism and business confidence arising from the ‘new dawn’, South Africa is finally moving into a political and individual space where the silver lining starts outshining the dark cloud. **AVBOB** is taking their lead from this and, as a corporation involved with millions of individuals, they are mobilised and inspired by the realisation that the time has come to stand up and be counted.



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MENS GOLF

As I walk down the fairway after some rain the smell of nature at work is in the air. Our golf course is returning to an immaculate state with our newly resurfaced greens complementing this condition. Yes, the greens are still firm and only hold with some pure wedge shots, but the greens have become better and better week in and week out. If I think back to the first month compared to now it's like comparing concrete to astroturf. The first hollow tining of the new greens is planned for December from 22 December to 2 January 2020 during which time the course will be closed, to assist with the recovery period for the greens. Thereafter the greens will hold even better and be enjoyed by all.

It has been a busy period for the golf section since my last article. I hosted a successful Men's Captains Dinner last week with the assistance of vice-captain Pieter Fouche and management staff. We were entertained by our Golf Directors, Sybrand van der Spuy and Athol Dowie, with tales from days past and stories galore which really caused some brilliant entertainment which our members graciously enjoyed, resulting in a standing ovation. Some great wines from Warick Estate were enjoyed, N9NE Catering's food was absolutely top-class and KWV brandy was there at the end of the evening to send off the guys.

Our Men's and Ladies Club Championships were played in May with Christiaan Maäs and Danielle du Toit walking away with the respective honours. Christiaan was at the time only 15 and is one of the youngest winners of late. He was also selected for the Gauteng North Golf Union's (GNGU) Premier Inter-Provincial Tournament (IPT) Team and thereafter was selected as part of the National squad to represent South Africa. Well done Christiaan, the club is proud of you!



Christiaan Maäs at Club Champs

Other golfing achievements from Pretoria Country Club members, were that of Conrad Rauch, past Captain, who was selected for the Gauteng North Golf Union's Senior Inter-Provincial Tournament Team. Stals Swart was selected for the Gauteng North Golf Union's Premier Inter-Provincial Tournament team and Bronwyn Doeg was selected for the Gauteng North Golf Union's Premier Inter-Provincial Tournament Team for women.



Bronwyn Doeg



Christiaan Maäs and Stals Swart at IPT

In September the Woolavington Open was played, this is a 36 hole medal competition. The winner is determined by nett score but there are also gross prizes. This year's winner is our very own Andre van Wyk, Lord Woolavington would have been proud. Well played good sir!!



Andre van Wyk with his trophy

Also in September, we had the annual Beyerskloof Snoek Braai event. Some great golf was played and as per usual the Beyerskloof team spoiled us with some superb braai work. The evening was well enjoyed by all present. Thanks again to Beyers Truter and his team for making the effort.

All our league games are completed with the exception of the Development League, there we are leading after two games played. We won three leagues and were runners up in two of the leagues. Congratulations to both Womens Thursday and Saturday leagues that won in the A-division. The Mixed league won in B-Division and for their efforts, they will be promoted to the A-division next year. Mens Scratch league team finished runners up in A-Division and Mens Handicap finished runners up in A-Division. The second place of the A-Division was due to a count-out rule which has since been changed due to the unfair nature of the rule. If the amended rule applied this year, PCC would have won. Keep up the good work!! Many thanks to all team captains involved and it seems the lady Captains have a winning formula. Thank you for flying the PCC flag high, we are proud of you!

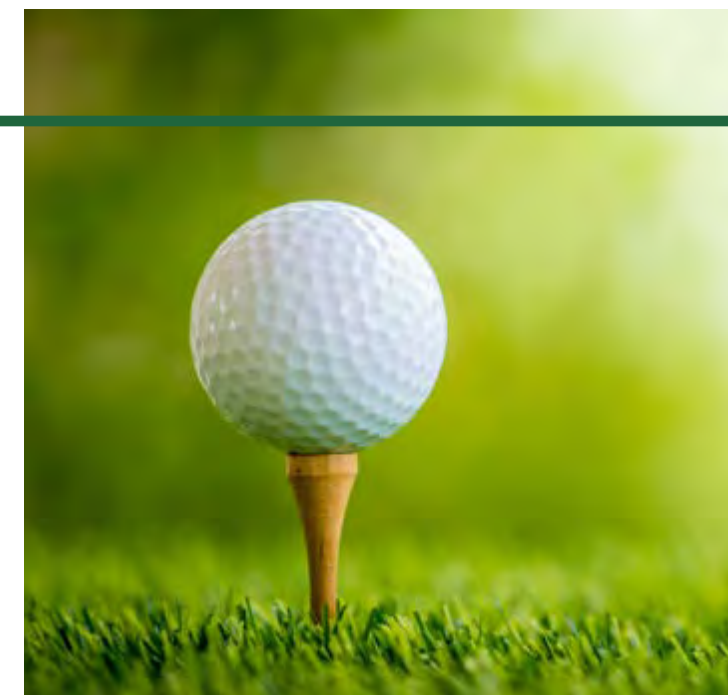
The Golf Committee hosted two Inter-Club Games with Bryanston Country Club and Royal Johannesburg and Kensington Golf Club. These matches are of great importance to us as a club and naturally to show off our golf course and facilities. This strengthens our comradery and there is a great willingness to share

information as to how each club is run and what could be learned from each other.

Once again I would like to reiterate the great nick our golf course is in and we as members can be very proud of it. I would like to thank all members supporting the Pretoria Country Club and especially the golfers. Without such loyal support, the club wouldn't be able to move forward at the pace it currently is, I thank you!

The new year holds exciting opportunities for us as a club, which will enable our golfers to enjoy as many benefits in the golf section as what the pristine golf course has to offer. Have a great and blessed festive season and if you are traveling, travel safe and enjoy the time off.

Captain's Greetings



“Golf is not just an exercise; it's an adventure, a romance... a Shakespeare play in which disaster and comedy are intertwined.”

- Harold Segall



LADIES GOLF

October–December 2019

IMPORTANT DATES FOR 2020

11 Feb	Valentines golf day
16 Feb	Kudu Cup 1 st round (mixed Knockout)
25 Feb	Jeppe Cup 1 st round (individual Knockout)
10 Mar	Cullinan Cup 1 st round (better ball knockout)
17 Mar	Ladies Club Champs
18 Mar	Ladies Club Champs
7 Apr	Alma Chapman open day
3 May	Copper Platter mixed open
12 May	Ladies Golf AGM Captains vs Vice captain
23 Aug	Anniversary cup
18 Oct	Smyth Cup charity golf day
1 Nov	Kudu Cup Final and Rooibok mixed competition
10 Nov	Pink Ball and Xmas party

MONTHLY DATES

January 2020

21	Joey Prinsloo Trophy Individual Stableford
28	3 Ball Alliance Choose partners. Multiply 2 best scores



Congratulations to all the Birthday Ladies

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

04 Letitia Greyling 07 Jutta Korfer
16 Carole Otto 16 Hettie oberholzer
18 Ronel van Nieuwenhuize
19 Roberta Pretorius 20 Riana Erasmus
22 Barbara Baron 22 Geta Nel

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

03 Erna Minnaar 07 Engela van Dyk
09 Alida Swart 26 Queenie Steyn
27 Rosemary Williams 29 Maretha Cronje
30 Riana Karemaker 31 Gerda Smit

What is News?

CHAMPION OF CHAMPS



Bronwyn and Vivienne Doeg took part in the Champion of Champs in the Limpopo region. Bronwyn won the A division and Vivienne the C division.

Bronwyn received the award for the most promising women's player of the year at the GNGU awards dinner.

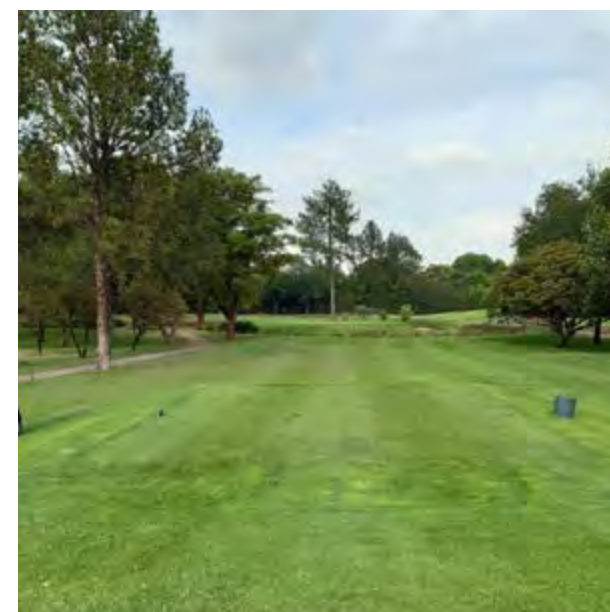
BIRDIE BREEDING DOMES

The lady golfers initiated the purchasing of the Birdie domes on the golf course.



NEW TEE BOX ON THE NO 8

We would like to thank STM for our new tee box on no 8.



HOLES-IN-ONE

It is not everyday that two ladies get holes-in-one on one day. During the Beyerskloof golf day Vivienne Doeg got a hole-in-one on the 8th hole and Riana Erasmus on the 16th hole. Did they plan this...? Same outfits...?



SMYTH CUP 70TH

What a day! A big thank you to the ladies Golf Committee and Letitia Greyling for organising such an event. The goodie bags, Gin and Tonic, pancakes, donuts etc. on the course were amazing. Luckily the Springboks also turned the colour of the day from purple to green. A special thank you to our sponsors and players. We handed out more than 80 prizes. We raised R230 000 from which several welfare and charity organisations will once again be benefitting hugely from the day.





CULLINAN CUP

The Cullinan Cup competition dates back to 1939. The winners this year won the trophy for the 4th time. Congratulations to Lynn and Heather this is quite an achievement.



Winners
Lynn Bently and Heather Maizey



Runners up
Ronel Louw and Alet Vorster

WESSELS CUP



Wessels Cup Winner
Lyn Dowie

ROSA WHITFIELD CUP



Rosa Whitfield Winners
Delyse burger and Hettie Oberholzer

JEPPE CUP



Winner: Riana Erasmus
Runner up: Riana Karemaker

KUDU CUP



Winner: Marais Vorster and Alet Vorster
Runners up: Gerhard Hechter and Lenz de Jager



BECKETT SHIELD

Congratulations to Marietjie Brune and Anke de Wit on winning the Beckett Shield!

PINK BALL XMAS PARTY

Our Mexican-themed golf day was a huge success. Thank you, girls, for dressing up and enjoying the day in the spirit that only you can.



Captains Corner

The Comittee is taking a break during the December holidays. There will be no organised golf in December. If you are going away for the holiday season, travel safe and we are looking forward to welcoming you back in 2020.

Tersia Pelser

Ladies Golf Captain



BOWLS

At Pretoria Country Club

Only mad dogs and English men go out in the midday sun...

That being said we as Bowlers go out four or even five afternoons a week in temperatures of 34 degrees plus as has been the case during September and October and still enjoy playing the game of Bowls.

Lots of water is consumed during the game and equal amounts of wine thereafter.



One of the most favourite events at the Bowls Club is the annual game against Bryanston Country Club.

It takes place alternately at each Club with strong competition and lovely meals afterwards.

The men's section has been played since 1961 of which 31 games were won by Pretoria Country Club and 24 by Bryanston. The ladies only started participating in this competition from 1974 and Pretoria Country Club won 13 games while Bryanston won 24 of the games played. This is not too bad since ladies were only allowed to play with the men from 1962 at Pretoria Country Club.

This year, both trophies were won by Pretoria Country Club.



AN ANNUAL BOWLS COMPETITION; BRYANSTON COUNTRY CLUB VS PRETORIA COUNTRY CLUB



Competition Secretaries, Ludick Venter and Elma van Wyk with Bryanston Day Trophy



George receiving Bryanston Day Trophy



TENNIS

At Pretoria Country Club



Attracted to fun in the sun, beach sand and water?... then Mauritius is certainly not your only destination of choice for an action-filled experience!

Look no further than PCC Beach and Tennis Club, where you will find utopia on every visit. The best kept secret in Pretoria is now revealed for the discerning sportsmen and women seeking to play tennis or beach tennis in a beautiful and safe environment.

Nestled between a long row of gigantic blue-gum trees, and beautiful landscaped garden, in a picturesque setting, you will find six immaculate tennis courts, five of which have floodlights especially for those nocturnally active enthusiasts wishing to play tennis after a stressful day at the office.

Oh, we haven't forgotten to tell you about the beach sand experience! There are two stunning championship beach tennis courts for those who love the feeling of sand beneath their feet, the smell of coconut tanning oil on their skin and a great aerobic workout in the sun. This is social interaction at the very best, where endless high fives are exchanged between players and the music vibes keep everyone energised while playing.

So what if you and your partner or child can't play tennis or beach tennis? No problem, all sorted! Dino, Wayne and Bryn are our professional coaches, always ready to teach and mentor you and in no time, you'll be up and running and partaking in a social sport that you and your children will enjoy socially for years to come.

Is PCC Tennis all just about playing tennis, you may ask? Certainly not! We love to fellowship and have numerous fun-filled social events on our annual calendar schedule. Again, why travel all the way to the UK to watch Wimbledon tennis? At PCC Tennis we have our very own unique "Wimbledon" tennis tournament event. Just wear your white tennis outfit

and enter in the mixed doubles draw and experience the feeling of being a tennis star! Winning or losing can be equally thrilling only because strawberries and cream is served with copious amounts of great South African bubbly!

If you're still sitting on the fence contemplating why you should be playing tennis, then consider these life-changing benefits for a moment. The social interaction you receive from playing tennis can boost your self-esteem, improve your mood (Vit D) and helps fight stress and anxiety. Whether you are just a beginner or an advanced player, you will always find a tennis partner socialising.

Tennis is the perfect sport for people of all ages who are looking to improve not only their physical and mental

fitness levels, but also a great sporting activity for socialising too. It is particularly beneficial for younger children who will benefit from developing good eye-hand co-ordination skills, motor planning ability and problem-solving skills. More importantly, playing tennis will keep them away from very addictive digital screen devices in exchange for a healthier outdoor lifestyle. Children can learn valuable life lessons by playing tennis; proper sportsmanship, how to lose gracefully, demonstrate respect, exercise patience and how to control emotions.

What are you waiting for? Come and discover a new way of outdoor recreation and join our tennis family at the best kept tennis location in Pretoria. We welcome you!





SQUASH

Boast and drive



2019 was another awesome year for PCC Squash.

The efforts put in by the Squash Committee, League Team Captains and the members themselves, have really paid off. The season started off by us, once again, winning the prestigious Northerns Men's Blitz League. The 2019 Ladies Blitz team also ended up with a respectable 3rd place. The Blitz sees the best of the best in Northerns taking each other on in a high-stakes competition over two weeks. Incidentally, we have now won Men's Blitz three times in a row (2017-2019).

Building on the success achieved in Blitz, we ventured into unfamiliar waters by entering a record 11 league teams in the grueling 8-month long 2019 Northerns League. PCC hasn't entered these many league teams in so much as 10 years.

The gamble paid off... as was the case in 2018, PCC once again won the coveted Woody Kaiser trophy, which basically confirmed that we were "the best club" in Northerns for the 2019 league season. PCC last won this trophy in 2002 and it is a testament to the positive sentiment that is clearly visible these days within the Squash Section.

The general positive sentiment at squash and the attention to the upkeep of facilities also enables us to become "the preferred host" to premier tournaments, not only Northerns' ones, but the National tournaments as well. In 2019, we were chosen to host two premier SA tournaments; the SA

Nationals and the SA Masters. This will always be a feather in our cap; indications are that the positive experience had by Squash SA and Growthpoint, will see the SA Nationals, once again, being hosted by PCC in 2020.

Winning awards and getting accolades are awesome, but for us, getting everybody involved in the section as one family, enjoying the game and its beautiful facilities, is actually what makes the section great.

It is our social side which we are actually most excited about. Not everyone wants to play league and we have started to strike a balance. Doubles squash and informal social play (pitch and play on Mondays and Wednesdays) have become extremely popular and informal matches for all levels have become as important as league. It also serves as a value incubator for the 7th league.

So yes, a successful squash club would be us winning awards, but moreover it's about the members and their families also simply just using the courts and facilities on a regular basis.

For 2020 our goals are quite simple; we build on what we have and nurture the vibrant spirit which is burning so brightly at PCC Squash.

Here were some of the highlights we had in 2019.

VALUED MEMBERS

We saw our squash members increase by approximately 10% in 2019 (was 15% in 2018) to where we now have 90 active players that are using the courts on a regular basis.

For the 2020 Northerns League season, we'll have 44 players (11 teams) once again every week representing PCC in their newly branded league shirts. Playing league is quite a commitment, but week in and week out our members keep flying the PCC flag for eight months in the year.

The general "spangees" at squash is very healthy and quite tangible judging from the positive vibe that exists at the club; and for most of us, I believe, it is really close to being a second home.

COMMUNICATION

The WhatsApp groups are really working well and allows for effective communication between members and the captains of the respective league teams.

The social media platforms (Instagram and Facebook) at PCC are also used to communicate the more important messages or achievements. Some research among our members showed an overwhelming mark of 9/10 when asked how they rated the communication at squash.

COMMITTEE

The Committee meets regularly to discuss club matters and ways on how to continuously improve the squash offering at the Club. The Committee comprises of the following members:

- **Captain:** Piet Jordaan
- **Vice Captains:** Robyn Baptiste and Ashleigh Fergusson
- **Members:** Nico Prinsloo, Kyle Potgieter, Kevin Karam (coach) and Jacques Ehlers

PCC TOURNAMENTS AND EVENTS

We hosted some significant events in 2019; some internally driven by the Committee itself and others externally run by Northerns Juniors, Seniors and Masters. Hosting the SA Masters, SA Nationals, our 58th Annual Club Champs and the 3rd PCC-Romo Doubles were the tournament highlights of 2019.

FACILITIES

The PCC Main Committee approved the Squash Facilities Modernisation Plan in January 2017. This plan was fully implemented by mid-2018 and the members and their guests are truly enjoying the facilities. Some research among our members showed an overwhelming mark of 9/10 when asked how they rated the facilities at squash.



OPERATIONAL AND CLOSURE TIMES *over the festive season*

Golf course, halfway house, the pavilion and all practice facilities

The above-mentioned facilities will close on Monday, **23 December** and re-open on Thursday, **2 January 2020** due to the annual hollow-tining cultural practice. The practice putting green, chipping green and practice tee will also be hollow-tined during this period. This specific hollow-tining will be an important process in the life of our newly established greens as it is the first hollow-tining exercise and will require more time to perform than normal. Due to several public holidays during this period, N9NE Catering will be closed during this period as well, giving staff a short break before facing a busy January schedule.

Golf Shop

The golf-shop will be open during the above-mentioned period apart from **23, 25, 26 and 30 December** as well as on **New Year's day**.

Administration Office

The administration office will be closed from Tuesday, **17 December 2019** and re-open on Monday, **06 January 2020**. During this period, reception and maintenance will be operative except for Christmas and New Year's day.

N9ne Catering Office

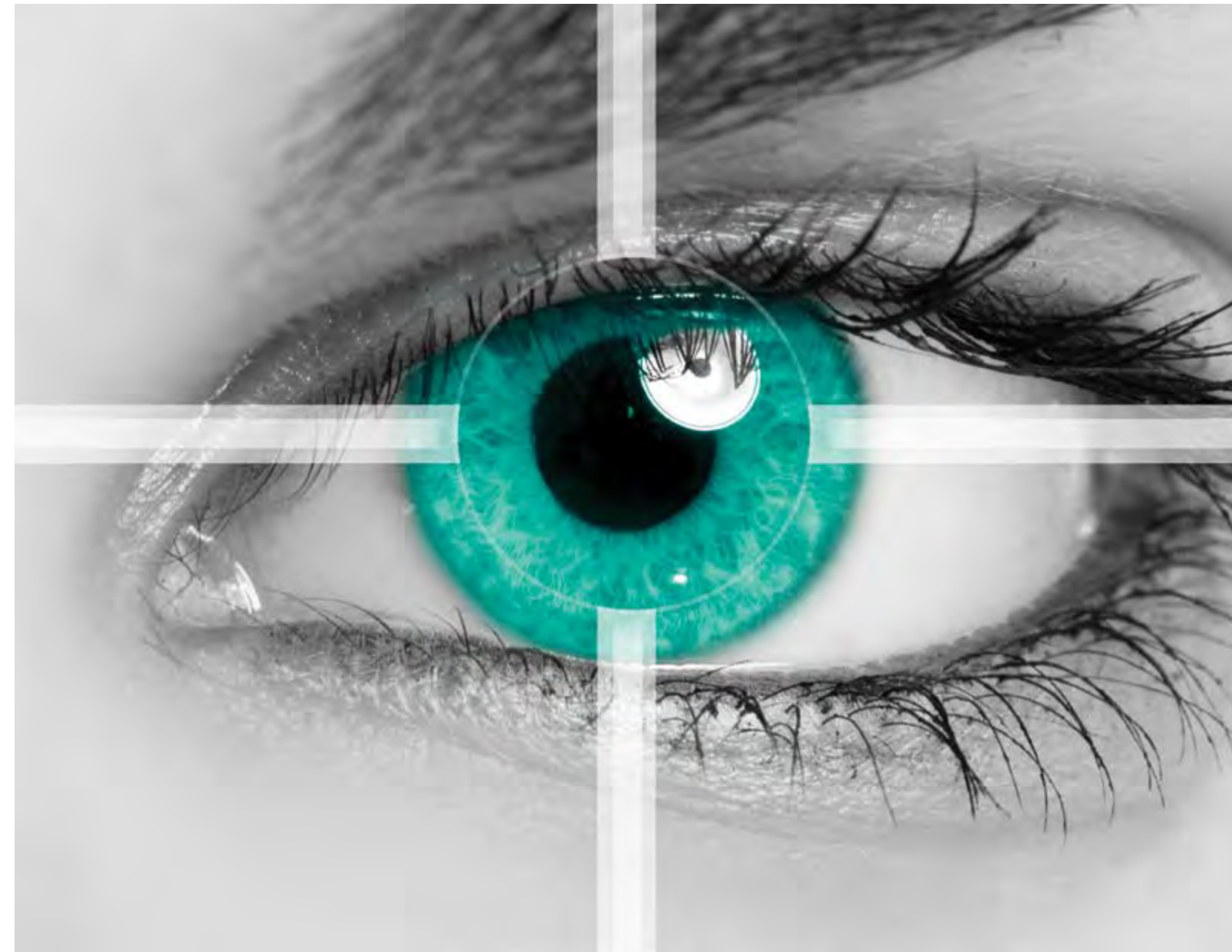
N9ne Catering office will be closed from Sunday, **15 December 2019** and re-open on Monday, **06 January 2020**.

Blu Saffron

The restaurant will be closed from Monday, **23 December 2019** and re-open on Thursday, **02 January 2020**.

.....
On behalf of Main Committee and management, we would like to wish all our members a peaceful festive season and a safe journey.

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PRETORIA CLUB

turns 135 years old

On 21 February next year, the Pretoria Club will celebrate its 135th anniversary.

The Club is indeed fortunate that the original founding document signed by the members, is still in its possession and is on permanent display in the members rooms. Kelsey Loveday, who drafted the document, was a member of the Volksraad, and also played a major role in the establishment of the Sabie National Park, which has grown into the world-famous Kruger National Park.

In 1885 Pretoria was a small isolated village – it was still another year before gold was discovered and Johannesburg was established. Very much a young person's village where the men hunted, fished and played sport together, on Church Square, the site of the first Clubhouse. With a small population, many of the families were related, and the founding members were known as “the happiest brothers-in-law in town”.

Paul Kruger was elected the first Honorary Member holding this position until his death in 1902. An amusing

story concerning the State President, is that when the first churches were being established in the village, it was agreed that each were given four city erven to build their place of worship. When the Jewish community decided to erect their Synagogue, which still stands in Paul Kruger Street today, they were only allowed two city erven. Sammy Marks, a fellow club member and a close personal friend and advisor to the President, enquired why they were only given two erven. Paul's response was “because you only believe in half the Bible”. Legend has it, there was then a tremendous rush to the local bookstore by members of the Jewish community, who purchased the complete stock that was available so that they could catch up on the New Testament.

Other interesting stories are – in 1896 as a result of the Jameson Raid 19 club members were in the local gaol at the same time. It did not take the local residents long to rename the Club, “the Rand Reformatory”. Johan Rissik, a Burgher and strong republican, was Chairman of the Club, whilst his brother-in-law, H. B. Marshall from Johannesburg was one of the prisoners. Johan, to keep the family peace arranged for a Club Lunch to be sent up each day so that those in gaol were well fed. He also arranged for Mark Twain, the world-renowned author who visited the Club at the time, to visit the Reformers in gaol to lift their spirits.

Percy Fitzpatrick, a fellow Club member, who was in gaol for his role as Secretary of the Reform committee



was ever grateful, and in 1901 when Johan returned to Pretoria from active commando duty dangerously ill, Percy somehow scavenged a case of Sandilands Best Invalid Port and presented it to Johan, who fourteen years later, as the Administrator of the Transvaal, performed the official opening of Pretoria Country Club, but alas there is no foundation stone on show today! Interestingly the city of Johannesburg was named after Johan as well.

The Struben brothers changed the face of Pretoria, the Transvaal and South Africa. Both were club founder members, Harry a successful transport contractor farmed just east of the village, the name of the farm was the “Willows” and the farmhouse “Lynnwood”, whilst his brother Fred, was an amateur geologist. Together they found payable gold at Wilgespruit, in the Krugersdorp area and are credited with the honour of founding the gold mining industry of South Africa. Before meeting with Paul Kruger to advise

him of the find they visited the Club to have a drink and refresh themselves, showing fellow members their gold nuggets. Later when the Main Reef was discovered many members successfully invested in mining, property and other assets.

Much later, in 1925 the Club gave up their premises to allow the then Prince of Wales, later King Edward VIII, and the Duke of Windsor privacy during his visit to Pretoria. In thanks the Prince hosted a dinner for Members and on display in the rooms is the signed menu and photograph.

Should readers like to learn more about the Club, tours of the members rooms can be arranged through the office.

Brian Forsyth



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LUNCH

With the Chairman

We all know David Muller but what do we know about him?

An interview with the Jacaranda Editorial Team reveals a few insights to his 59 years on earth.

We chose the Caraffa for lunch, unpretentious surroundings but the food is notable especially when roasted in the wood fire oven.

A warm friendly greeting as usual from Michela. Franca Tuchi was on leave so it was fairly quiet although the restaurant was busy for a Monday.

Having settled on a Heineken imported draft we discussed the early part of his life.

He told us he was born in Welkom where his father was in the mining industry. His father served 40 years, all of them underground. One thing David got from his father was to fight injustice. He comes from a very small family. His father being an orphan and his mom's mother too. He speaks fondly of his father and how he overcame the challenges brought by being an orphan. One thing he took from his father- stand strong in adversity and don't tolerate injustices. When he was three, they moved to Westonaria Areas where he did all his schooling.

Times were tough and there was little luxury in the household, but he enjoyed a happy childhood with a brother and sister. His mother, a school teacher, provided the intellectual stimulation that children need when growing up and he remains

ever grateful to her to this day and she is still flourishing in her eighties.

He wanted originally in the early stages to become a pilot and having got through all the tests to do so was only then told he had to sign on in SAAF for fifteen years. His mom made the unpopular decision at the time, refusing to sign as guardian. A decision he now years later describe as probably wise.

At this stage starters were served, David going for a Funghi (stuffed mushrooms to non-Italian speakers and the writer hereof Cozze Freshce, fat mussels in a delicious creamy sauce).

He obtained a bursary to study engineering and science and intended to enrol at RAU but was persuaded to come to Pretoria when he also changed his mind and decided to study law.

On university vacations he would work underground at a mine in Westonaria logging the miners' movements. He would often do double shifts and was earning in 1980, R1 200 per month, a huge sum for a twenty-year-old. Just as well, as a rugby injury stopped his studies and he lost his bursary until he could catch up which he did one year later paying for his own studies up to that point.

It is in Pretoria that he met his lovely wife Antoinette with whom he has three children and their first grandchild just a few months ago.

On one of their dates with Antoinette they were so obviously enamoured with each other that they lost track of time when they suddenly realised Antoinette had five minutes before curfew time

at the girls' hostel. He had her on the back of his motorbike and skipping robots, driving on pavements he got her there with a minute to spare. She informed him the next day that she would never ride pillion again with him as he was a maniac on the road (anybody seen him drive lately!). Led to me bring a Datsun called Lady Di. Anyway all went well, and they married at the tender age of twenty-four, David, we don't mention ladies' ages. After thirty-eight years they remain devoted to each other and anybody that knows her can see she retains that lovely sparkling personality and the impish grin that David loves so much.

Main course was a beautifully cooked West Coast sole with almonds and a lamb rump from the oven. All of this was washed down with a reasonably priced 2019 Le Motte Sauvignon Blanc.

At TUKS he also met the Rauch brothers, Connie and Anton. They persuaded him to caddy for them and there began his love of golf culminating in his Captainship in 2007.

His encouragement to play golf came from Anton and Sybrand and with Athol showing him a thing or two became a proficient golfer which he remains today. Those three remain friends now for nearly forty years.

Sybie's home was always open to him later in life when he was living in Lesotho when he visited Pretoria. He reveals that Athol was not always happy to see him arrive, knowing that Sybie may call in late the next morning.

After qualifying with his LLB he joined the Police as a Prosecutor which saw him seconded to Lesotho where he remained for the period 1988 to 1998. Surviving three coups including a near-death experience of being pulled out of his bakkie

which was set alight, he managed to escape with a few blows to the head (explains a lot) and was rescued by a passing motorist.

Back to Lesotho, his family lived in Ladybrand and he commuted each day to Lesotho. His children were born in Bloemfontein.

He rose to the rank of Brigadier and with South Africa entering a new era came back to Pretoria in 1998. His commanding officer was George Fivas and David reminded him that he promised him that he could choose the location for his next posting. This was Cape Town, but the Commander of Cape Town was of a lower rank and he had to give up that idea.

To cut a long story short his career took a turn when he was approached by a company who were to start the National Lottery and he remains in this industry to this day.

He has a passion for the club and since becoming Chairman has restructured the reporting at Main Committee (no more five-hour meetings) believing in delegating and allowing those to whom he delegates to take the decisions and backing them 100% at Main Committee meetings when votes are needed to ratify decisions. He talks keenly about his vision to remove the Club's dependency on subscriptions. The need for additional revenue streams are key.

By now desserts were ready to be ordered but we opted for a double espresso and parted to our next meetings having spent a pleasant two hours reminiscing.



PARTNERSHIP Programme

The following suppliers offer discounts to Pretoria Country Club members on presentation of a valid PCC membership card:

The PCC membership card is personal to a specific member and may not be used by anyone else. A member who allows someone else, whether a family member or any other person, to utilise his card or membership number, shall be deemed guilty of unbecoming conduct as described in Section 14 of the PCC Constitution.



10% OFF

- Monday- Sunday (12:00-close)
- Club Centre, c/o Dely Rd & Pinaster Rd, Hazelwood
- 076 016 7612
- www.hogshead.co.za



10% OFF

- Monday-Friday (9:00-16:00)
- Menlyn Park Shopping Centre, Cnr Atterbury & Lois street | Brooklyn Mall, Cnr Veale & Middle street
- 012 472 0020 (Menlyn Mall)
- 012 346 8888 (Brooklyn Mall)



10% OFF

Discount does not apply on delivery and services.

- Monday-Friday (7:00-17:00)
- 325 Zasm Street, Waltloo
- 012 803 6051



10% OFF

Redeemable at PCC Squash Pro Shop or Brooklyn Centre. Not applicable on items already marked down or on promotion.

- Monday-Friday (9:00-17:00)
- Saturday (9:00-13:00)
- Shop 2, Brooklyn Centre, Cnr Jan Shoba St & Lynnwood Rd
- 012 460 2491



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No joining fee. 20% discount on all standard club rates – applicable at all Planet Fitness Clubs excluding Platinum and JustGym.

- ★ 10% discount at any PUMA shop.
- ★ 10% discount at the PLANET shop online.
- www.planetfitness.co.za



15% OFF

- Tuesday- Sunday (12:00-close)
- Pretoria Country Club, 241 Sidney Street, Waterkloof
- 012 346 0223



15% OFF

Discount applies for selected concerts only.

- Monday-Saturday (9:00-17:00)
- Greenlyn, Shop 21, Thomas Edison St, Menlo Park
- 012 460 6033







10% OFF

Discount is not applicable on retail products.

- Monday-Friday (7:00-18:00)
- 343 Brooklyn Rd, Brooklyn
- 012 346 5064
- www.hairvolution.co.za





10% OFF

Not in conjunction with any other specials running.

- Tuesday- Saturday (7:00-17:00),
Sundays (7:00-14:00)
- 12 16th St, Hazelwood (next to Culture Club)
- 012 111 0650





10% OFF

Discount applies on the total bill.

- Monday-Friday (7:00-18:00)
- Aroma Hazelwood | Aroma Brooklyn |
Aroma Silver Lakes
- 012 030 1340 | 012 362 3560 | 012 809 2458
- www.aromacoffee.co.za





20% OFF

Not applicable on ties and belts.

- Monday- Sunday (9:00-close)
- G17 Menlyn Park Shopping Centre,
Cnr Atterbury & Lois St
- 012 348 2355





10% OFF

Discount applies on the total bill.


- Tuesday-Sunday (11:00-close)
- 5 Boendoe Avenue, Pretoriuspark
- 063 732 1058
- www.socialgrill.co.za






15% OFF

- Tuesday- Sunday (11:00-close)
- 160 Main St, Nieuw Muckleneuk
- 087 822 1465





20% OFF

Not applicable on any retail and existin specials already running in the salon.

- Tuesday-Friday (9:00-17:00)
- 26 Oaktree Avenue, Hazelwood, Menlo Park
(opposite Planet Fitness The Club)
- 012 460 2491





5% OFF

May not be used in conjunction with any other special offers.

- Monday- Friday (6:00-18:00),
Saturday (6:00-14:00), Sunday (9:00-13:00)
- 79 Skilpad Rd, Monument Park
- 012 346 1882







20% OFF

Not applicable on any retail and existing specials already running in the salon.

- Tuesday, Wednesday
and Thursday only (9:00-17:00)
- @Will Hairdressing, 26 Oaktree Avenue,
Hazelwood, Menlo Park
(opposite Planet Fitness The Club)
- 082 881 9212





15% OFF

- Tuesday- Sunday (11:00-close)
- 160 Main St, Nieuw Muckleneuk
- 087 822 1465



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Only 5% discount on hardware and balls.

🕒 Tuesday- Sunday (7:30-17:30)
📍 Pretoria Country Club,
241 Sidney Street, Waterkloof
☎ 012 460 3372



10% OFF

🕒 Monday-Friday (8:00-16:30)
📍 325 Zasm Street, Waltloo
☎ 084 600 9000

CAN A SCREW-CAP WINE BE 'CORKED?'

Yes, it can, though it depends on how strictly you define the term.

Contrary to almost universal belief, **screw-cap wines are indeed susceptible** to the sort of mouldy, off aromas typically associated with contaminated corks.

The main source of cork taint in wine is a randomly occurring chemical called 2,4,6-trichloroanisole, or TCA. It's usually produced when a fungus resident in natural cork bark comes into contact with chlorine, either during the bleaching process or when rainwater soaks into stacks of bark left to dry in the sun. It's powerful stuff and completely invisible to the eye, not to be confused with corks that are merely brittle or broken.

I'd estimate that TCA conspicuously affects at least two or three bottles in 100. And that's probably just the tip of the iceberg. At very low concentrations, even when you can't detect it directly, TCA can rob a wine of its fruity character. It's a scourge and the main reason many producers of fine wine have moved to screw caps.

But there are other, similarly mouldy contaminants closely related to TCA that have been found in wine. One of them is 2,4,6-tribromoanisole, or TBA, which has been linked to certain fungicides and wood preservatives used in the packaging industry. TBA can settle on various materials, such as wooden barrels, Styrofoam, cellar walls and wooden pallets. From there, it can migrate to polyethylene film, a plastic commonly used in screw-cap liners.

Source: Beppi Crosariol



WINE FRATERNITY At Pretoria Country Club

We have had some great wine tastings since the last edition of Jacaranda.

These include Saronsberg, Antjoni Rupert and of course the CWG which, whilst not a fraternity project, is always a spectacular event.

All these events include a gourmet dinner and should not be missed.

In the coming months we will be hosting **Dudette Gourmet Dinner** and **Ataraxia Informal Dinner**.

Watch out for news of them!

Chairman Johan Mook



N9NE CATERING

At Pretoria Country Club

The venues at Pretoria Country Club, with all-round beautiful flowing gardens, are ideal for any function, big or small.

N9ne Catering is based at the Country Club and will make your event a gourmet fantasy that will please any palate. N9ne Catering will make your wedding a feast to remember, and their friendly staff will make your guests feel welcome and spoilt.

Our crown jewel is the prestigious Ballroom, with its old-worldly charmand magnificent crystal chandeliers, built-in fireplace and wooden spring ballroom dance floor. The Ballroom is framed on one side by a big under-roof, pillared verandah. This venue is extremely popular for hosting big, glamorous events and is also a wedding venue, perfect in all its finery. The Ballroom can accommodate a maximum of 240 people.

The Pretoria Clubroom, situated next to the Ballroom, is a conference venue, which also serves as an extension of the Ballroom.

The Grand Lounge has a gentlemen's club feel to it, with four fireplaces and two chandeliers that look as if they are from an old English castle, and can accommodate 100 people.

This venue is very popular, from birthday functions to corporate events. For smaller weddings, it is the most amazing venue looking out over the lush gardens.

For conferences, the Mardi Gras has a built-in screen and buffet set-up with its own enclosed terrace and 150 people can sit either cinema style or 100 people in classroom style. Round ten-seater tables can be accommodated in this venue for sit-down functions.

The Country Club is your dream function venue in the centre of Pretoria, with everything your heart desires at your fingertips.



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Nelson Mandela Bay
South Africa

CALENDAR DATES

GOLF

21 Jan	Joey Prinsloo Trophy
16 Feb	Kudu Cup first round
10 Mar	Cullinan Cup first round
7 Apr	Alma Chapman Open
3 May	Copper Platter Mixed



SQUASH

Feb	Annual Internal Round Robin
Mar	PCC League Teams to be announced
Mid Mar	Northern Lightning & Winter League starts



TENNIS

16-17 May	Club Championships
23-24 May	Club Championships



BOWLS

18 Jan	Silver Hawks vs Golden Owls comp.
08 Feb	PCC Singles Championship
07 Mar	PCC Pairs Champions
18 Apr	3 x 3 x free PCC Mixed Pairs
30 May	Bowls AGM Captain vs Captain Competition



PRETORIA CLUB

29 Feb	Pretoria Club month-end lunch
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WINE FRATERNITY

30 Jan	Iskia Informal Wine Tasting
20 Feb	Warwick Informal Wine Tasting
7 May	Luddite Gourmet Dinner
4 Jun	Ataraxia Informal Dinner



SNOOKER

Mid Feb	Monthly Medal
Mid Mar	Inter-club friendly against Wanderers
May	Club Champs



Jacaranda Tree

A Jacaranda tree stands tall, and sways as if to say,
Look! At this magnificence, I'm wearing blue today.
Forgive the way I shout aloud, my lack of modesty,
but nowhere in this troubled world is finery like me.

Light rays slide between each leaf, to settle on the tips,
to lightly kiss your face with a hundred million tiny lips.
You only have to lift your eyes to greet the filtered sun,
a sight I guarantee will warm the heart of everyone.

Though very tall, my leaf is small, its form is one of fern,
large panicles of bluebells swell to trumpet unconcern.
A bee collecting nectar from an ample deep white
throat, takes flight to join its family, and of its feast to gloat.

Look up to see each fern-like leaf, floating up on high,
like footprints of a centipede that stroll across the sky.
See how far my branches reach, admire their greenery,
so beautiful and strong, I am the Jacaranda tree.



www.ptacc.co.za

