



WHALE COAST FLIER

Newsletter of the South African Air Force Association Whale Coast Branch

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SAAF Lockheed Ventura GR.5
(Photo: Marco Dotti - PLAINSPOTTERS.NET)

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK/UIT DIE REDAKTEUR SE PEN

Dis raar maar dis waar. Die 2023-jaar het verby gevlieg, waar ons nou in die maand van Desember is, met die Feestyd op hande – kosbare tyd vir uitspan en gesellige kuier saam met geliefdes en vriende.

Met so terugblik op die afgelope jaar se aktiwiteite, het ons tak ongetwyfeld 'n wonderlike jaar gehad, met nog sterker kameraderie, vriendskap en ondersteuning wat daarmee gepaard gegaan het.

Over the past year, we can also say that our relationship with the local branches of other veterans' organizations such as the MOThs and SA Legion remained solid and it is heartwarming to experience the passion and commitment to cherish South African military heritage during events such as the annual Remembrance Day Memorial Service and Wreath Laying Ceremony.

Verdermeer, so ietsie oor die nuwe lughawe soortgelyk aan Lanseria, wat beplan word in die Kaapse Wynland – en dit met 'n kosbare stukkie Lugmaggeskiedenis daaraan gekoppel.

Speaking about Air Force heritage, it was shocking and disturbing news to learn about the vandalism and theft, earlier this month, at the Air Force Memorial in Pretoria. We included a brief insert on this incident.

Closer to home, this edition covers another historical event, being the 5th Anniversary of Whale Coast Branch. Read more about this celebration later.

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Our last edition for 2023 will focus on the Year-end Function or Braai, held at the Old Boys Club, in conclusion of a memorable 2023 year, with a photo gallery confirming the success of the event.



On behalf of the Whale Coast Branch Committee, I wish all our members a pleasant and jubilant time in the company of family and friends during this festive season.

Our sincere wish is that everyone will enjoy a memorable and safe time of relaxation.

May peace and joy be yours in abundance and may 2024 bring prosperity and contentment. God bless you.



Namens die Walviskustak Komitee, wens ek al ons lede'n aangename en genotvolle tyd toe in die geselskap van familie en vriende tydens hierdie feesseisoen. Ons opregte wens is dat almal 'n onvergeetlike en veilige tyd van ontspanning sal geniet.

Mag julle vrede en vreugde in oortloed ervaar en mag 2024 voorspoed en tevredenheid bring. Gods rykste seën.



WEAL AND WOE

Sunset Call: Katie Muller. It is with great sadness that, on 08 December 2023, we learned of the passing away of Katie Muller, beloved wife of Lt Gen Mike Muller, a previous Chief of the Air Force and esteemed Patron of SAAFA.

We express our sincere condolences and deepest sympathy to Gen Muller and the family. May she Rest in Peace.

LEST WE FORGET

Wellbeing of our members. To those members who are battling illness or are recovering from surgeries, we uphold you all in our thoughts and prayers.

BROKKIES/SNIPPETS

New Cape Winelands Airport . An article written by Esmé Erasmus, *TygerBurger* of 28 November 2023 covered the following: “***Public to comment on new Cape Winelands airport development in Durbanville, Cape Town***”. The following is an extract from the story:

“The new Cape Winelands Airport on the Lichtenburg Road (R312) outside Durbanville has launched the first round of public participation for the expansion of the airport to a commercial airport similar to Lanseria airport in Gauteng.

Some residents of Durbanville have expressed their concern of noise pollution by departing and landing aeroplanes over Durbanville and surrounding areas on Facebook groups.

Interested and concerned parties have time until 08 December to comment on the planned development.

The airport, formerly called the Fisantekraal airport, is an ex-South African Air Force aerodrome built around 1943 during World War II – initially for the operation of Lockheed Ventura bombers.

It has since served as a general flying airfield for the general aviation sector and currently facilitates unscheduled operations, including recreational flying and private hangarage, flight training, aircraft maintenance, charter operations, crop spraying and aerial banner towing.”

See ***Enclosure 1*** for the complete article.

SAAF/SAAFA

SAAF

SA Lugmag Gedenkteken geplunder. Hiermee uittreksels uit ‘n berig saamgestel op 04 Desember 2023, deur Janice du Plessis van *Maroela Nuus*:

“Boosdoeners het Saterdagmiddag by die perseel van die Suid-Afrikaanse Lugmag-gedenkteken op Bay’s Hill in Swartkop buite Pretoria ingebreek en die museum geplunder.”

“Volgens ‘n verklaring wat Sondagmiddag uitgereik is, is die gedenksteen wat die destydse TBVC-state (Transkei, Bophuthatswana, Venda en Ciskei) uitbeeld, afgebreek.”

“Die basis het reeds ‘n skadebepaling gedoen en ‘n vergadering is vir Maandag gereël om die pad voretoe te bespreek.”

“Dit is ‘n tragiese toedrag van sake”, lui die verklaring.”

Maroela Media_04 Desember 2023



SAAFA

SAAFA Whale Coast Branch 5th Anniversary. On 13 December 2023, it was 5 years since the first get together of locally based SAAFA members and friends took place, held at *Café 1904*, Hermanus. SAAFA Cape Town Branch reported the following in its newsletter, ***Aquila Capensis* (Volume 29 No.6 October, November, December 2018)** with some photos included:

“LAUNCH OF SAAF ASSOCIATION WHALE COAST BRANCH: 13 DECEMBER 2018, HERMANUS

On Thursday 13th December 2018 a group of members residing in the greater Hermanus area got together with several guests including the National President Mike Louw and his wife.

At the lunch held at a restaurant in Hermanus the newest branch of the Association was announced aptly named the Whale Coast Branch. They will initially be a “subbranch” of the Cape Town Branch who will provide administrative support until they are able to do this for themselves, this includes the newsletter. “

13 December 2018 – Café 1904, Hermanus



From L to R: Ken Smith (Past National President), Mike Louw (National President), Marthie Visser (Chairperson Whale Coast), John Brown (Chairman Cape Town), Des Cloete (Whale Coast) and Daan Badenhorst (Country Vice President)





Photos: Aquila Capensis (Volume 29 No.6 October, November, December 2018)



HAPPY 5th ANNIVERSARY!!



Walviskustak Jaar-einde Middagete: Hermanus Old Boys Klub – 15 Desember 2023.

Soos tradisie oor die afgelope jare dit wil hê, het ons die tak se aktiwiteite afgesluit met 'n Braai by Hermanus Old Boys Klub, waar Raymond Henn weer sy braaivleisvaardighede gewys het en vir ons trakteer het met 'n smaaklike ete.

Dit was ook 'n voorreg om heelparty gaste teenwoordig te hê, wat hierdie keer ingesluit het 'n sterk verteenwoordiging van SALMV Nasionale Kantoor i.e. Mike Louw (SALMV Nasionale President) en wederhelf Vanessa, Nick Havenga (Voorsitter, Kaapstadtak) en wederhelf Carol (SALMV Ere-Tesourier en Verteenwoordiger vir Walviskustak op die Nasionale Uitvoerende Komitee (NUK)) en Colin Bowring, ook 'n lid van die NUK.









Foto's: André Pentz en Itel Zürich

Daar is geen twyfel nie, dat die kameraderie, vriendskap en feestelike atmosfeer bygedra het tot nog 'n uiters suksesvolle geleentheid.

BRANCH CALENDAR FOR 2024

After a memorable Festive Season spent with loved ones, we have the following lined up for the start of the 2024 year:

- **Branch Executive Committee (BEC) Meeting: 17 January 2024.**
- **Branch Annual General Meeting (AGM) and Luncheon: 23 February 2024.**

The complete *Branch Calendar of Events* for the 2024 year will be provided to members in due course.

For those who hoped or wished for more regular get-togethers, you will not be disappointed to hear that we will be having 6 x luncheons in 2024 commencing with the one co-inciding with the AGM.

*To all of you who wil be travelling over the Festive Season, please be alert,
have a save drive and arrive alive!*



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*The Editorial Committee would appreciate contributions from the Members
of SAAFA Whale Coast Branch and extends their thanks for all contributions received.
Opinions expressed in this newsletter do not necessarily reflect those of the Editor
or of SAAFA National Executive or of the Branch Executive Committee.
The Editor reserves the right to amend or reject any editorial matter submitted for publication.*

Enclosure 1 to
Whale Coast Flier
Dated 20 December 2023

TygerBurger

28 November 2023

Public to comment on new Cape Winelands airport development in Durbanville, Cape Town

Esmé Erasmus



The current airport facilities on a 150 ha piece of land, will be entirely upgraded, with the expansion programme including a realigned runway with all associated airside infrastructure such as taxi-ways, aprons (which are aircraft parking bays), a new boutique terminal building, cargo facilities and fuel storage amenities.

The new Cape Winelands Airport on the Lichtenburg Road (R312) outside Durbanville has launched the first round of public participation for the expansion of the airport to a commercial airport similar to Lanseria airport in Gauteng.

Some residents of Durbanville have expressed their concern of noise pollution by departing and landing aeroplanes over Durbanville and surrounding areas on Facebook groups.

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The airport, formerly called the Fisantekraal airport, is an ex-South African Air Force aerodrome built around 1943 during World War II – initially for the operation of Lockheed Ventura bombers.

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It was bought in 1993 by the late Doug Delange, who died in an aircraft crash near Oudtshoorn on 3 February 2018. In November 2020 business entrepreneur Rob Hersov and his friend and business partner, Nick Ferguson bought the Fisantekraal airfield. It was since acquired by a group of private businessmen, who established Cape Winelands Airport Ltd.

Complete transformation

According to Deidre Davids, spokesperson on behalf of Cape Winelands Airport, the airport is set to undergo a complete transformation.

The current airport facilities on a 150 ha piece of land, will be entirely upgraded, with the expansion programme including a realigned runway with all associated airside infrastructure such as taxi-ways, aprons (which are aircraft parking bays), a new boutique terminal building, cargo facilities and fuel storage amenities, says Davids.

The size and scope of the planned upgrades necessitate an environmental impact assessment (EIA), she says.

“The assessment, spearheaded by independent environmental practitioners, is currently underway and includes a public consultation process.

“This is the first public participation process and another round of public participation will take place in the new year as well,” says Davids.

The airport is located approximately 10,5km northeast of Durbanville and it is approximately 25km northeast of Cape Town International Airport.

“It has good connectivity in the region with linkages to Drakenstein, Wellington, Paarl, and Stellenbosch,” she says.

The site currently gains access from three major roadways, namely Klipheuwel Road (R302), Lichtenburg Road (R312) and Koelenhof Road (R304).

According to the pre-application draft environmental scoping report for the proposed expansion of the Cape Winelands Airport, the new airport will be capable of facilitating long-haul, wide-body flights by airlines and unscheduled operators from across the world.

Phased development

The proposed project entails the expansion of the existing airport in a phased development approach, which will include the realignment of a primary runway with an orientation of 01-19 and a length of 3.5km and the initial retention and refurbishment of a secondary cross runway with an orientation of 14-32 and a length of 700m, according to the report.

Landside and airside infrastructure will also be phased based on market demand. Landside infrastructure will include, but not be limited to, passenger and cargo terminals, a hotel, aircraft hangers and services, airport facilities, bulk fuel storage facility, internal and external road infrastructure, potable water and sewage treatment infrastructure, petrol filling station, biodigester, solar photo voltaic and stormwater management infrastructure.

Comments received from interested and affected parties will be used to inform various reports and studies and will be addressed by the relevant professional team as part of the in-process scoping report and later the in-process EIA report.

Visit <https://phsconsulting.co.za/proposed-expansion-of-cape-winelands-airport/> for more information and the scoping reports.