

EASTERN PROVINCE  
**VETERAN CAR CLUB**  
PORT ELIZABETH



## NEWSLETTER

Affiliated to the  
Southern African Veteran and  
Vintage Association



**NOVEMBER 2020 & DECEMBER 2020**

Office Bearers /Portfolio Holders 2020 -2021 Committee Members		CLUBHOUSE – PHYSICAL ADDRESS: Conyngham Street Glendinningvale Port Elizabeth
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<b>Riaan Hanekom</b> VICE CHAIRMAN EVENTS & SOCIAL	(c) 084-513-0939 ✉ <a href="mailto:chairperson.vice@epvcc.co.za">chairperson.vice@epvcc.co.za</a> ✉ <a href="mailto:events@epvcc.co.za">events@epvcc.co.za</a> Assisted by Liesl van Onselen	<b>Regular Monthly Club Events</b> Every Friday join us from 17:00 to 21.00 for
<b>Rodney Idris</b> SECRETARY	(c) 083-656-9170 ✉ <a href="mailto:secretary@epvcc.co.za">secretary@epvcc.co.za</a>	-   a “NOGGIN & NATTER”.
<b>Wiehan van Onselen</b> TREASURER	(c) 083-451-0100 ✉ <a href="mailto:treasurer@epvcc.co.za">treasurer@epvcc.co.za</a>	-   Delicious Suppers & Takeaways available every Friday on a pre- order basis only from Chef Anel of ROOTED.
<b>Chris Hanekom</b> MEMBERSHIP	(c) 083-299-0492 ✉ <a href="mailto:membership@epvcc.co.za">membership@epvcc.co.za</a>	- <b>THE CLUB IS CLOSED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.</b>
<b>Liezl van Onselen</b> EVENTS & SOCIAL ASSISTANT	(c) 083-464-8587 ✉ <a href="mailto:events.alt@epvcc.co.za">events.alt@epvcc.co.za</a>	
<b>Roché Hurter</b> CLUBHOUSE & GROUNDS	c) 072-030-8866 ✉ <a href="mailto:maintenance@epvcc.co.za">maintenance@epvcc.co.za</a>	<b>Please note:</b>  The views expressed in this newsletter are those of the individual writers and are not necessarily the opinions of the editor, the Club, or its committee members.
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### Editorial

Hi folks

**2021** !! another year gone, and COVID-19 is still here so not much is going to change regarding anyone's future plans this year. Looks like it will be another year of avoiding people and places, masking, washing hands and sanitizing. By the looks of it the vaccine will be available within the next few months with the front-line health workers being first in line to receive it.

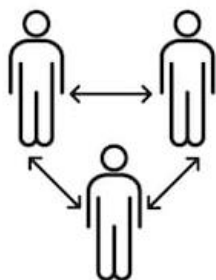
Otherwise, it has been a quiet couple of months for the club, with only a few events taking place and now that we are back into Level 3 there will not be much happening anytime soon as far as club functions go.

Anyway, one must be optimistic so here is wishing everyone a very **SAFE and HEALTHY 2021** and remember to take care of yourselves.

*Sue*



SOCIAL DISTANCING



### From the Chair

HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ONE AND ALL.

Cyril really buggered up the festive season with the introduction of level 3 lockdown. Well, I suppose it was not really his fault as much of our population do not follow social distancing, wear masks in public, etc. so with level 3 lockdown the EPVCC is once again closed until Cyril tells us what his next steps will be to curb the Covid-19 infections. In the meantime, please stay safe. The virus is now infecting friends and family and fellow club members.

Your committee is hard at work planning events for when the club can reopen and get some sort of normality back. At this stage, the All-Club's Day for the 28<sup>th</sup> February 2021 has been postponed.

I must thank Colin Skinner for the donation of an old Alfa crankcase, which has been mounted above the bar counter.

The club's Christmas Braai was enjoyed by all who attended. Thank you to those who made the effort.

Visit our Facebook page for your daily fix on interesting photos, etc. on old cars.

Drive safely (actually, stay at home) and stay safe.

Llew.





# Did You Know.....

## Did you Know that .....it was a British Major Who Saved the Iconic Volkswagen Beetle in 1945.

The Volkswagen Beetle is an iconic reminder of the skill and ingenuity of German engineering and stands out as a seminal vehicle in the history of the automobile.

A car that has become a cultural signifier from a company that has built upon a reputation for innovation and excellence since the end of the war.

However, the story might have been completely different had it not been for British Army officer Ivan Hirst.



***An early Volkswagen Beetle. 1932 Porsche Type 12. Mb1302 CC BY-SA 3.0***

The company was in pieces in the summer of 1945 with much of its manufacturing supply chain and production capacity wrecked by the fierce fighting that finally brought down the Nazi regime.

Once the dust had begun to settle the remaining industrial assets across Germany were taken and divided up between the Allies, the USA, Britain, France, and the Soviet Union.

The Potsdam Agreement allowed for factories to be dismantled and machinery repatriated under the terms of war reparations.

The Volkswagen Beetle factory in Wolfsburg was handed over to the British by the Americans. The British handed the reins to a twenty-nine-year-old Major who had trained to be an optician before the war and was now a civilian Military Governor.

Ivan Hirst was not dismayed by his new role. He had come from a family of Northern industrialists; his father and grandfather had built modern factories near Manchester and their clocks and optical instruments had been exported around the world.



***Type 82E—Kübelwagen chassis Beetle body.***

Following the Allied invasion of Normandy, in September 1944 Major Ivan Hirst found himself in charge of a tank repair plant in the Belgian town of Lot, South West of Brussels.

Within four weeks the plant was turning out twenty-five repaired armoured vehicles, ready to go, some with a new coat of paint.

He was managing a workforce six-hundred strong including local Belgian men and British welding crews, responsible for their accommodation, food, and welfare.

The repair work was often hampered by a lack of spare parts and many times these had to be either improvised or made from scratch.



**A family playing by a river with a KdF-Wagen and radio receiver**

By the time he arrived in Wolfsburg in August 1945 Hirst was well versed in the problems associated with setting up a production line and in dealing with a diverse workforce.

The town was under-populated and resembled a building site but was home to refugees and former forced laborers from all across Europe.

The factory was being used by the Royal Engineers as a repair shop, one for engines and one for spare parts employing up to eight per cent of the workforce.

The Volkswagen plant had been used by the Americans to produce Kübelwagens, or tub-trucks as they were known, and the machinery earmarked for export to the UK or Australia. There was little or no commercial interest in producing the Beetle.

British car maker Sir William Rootes told Hirst he expected car production to fail inside two years with the observation that the vehicle, "...is quite unattractive to the average motorcar buyer, is too ugly and too noisy..."

When the British offered the plant to US company Ford, Henry Ford II, son of the founder Edsel Ford, visited with the Chairman of the Board, Ernest Breech who said, "Mr. Ford, I don't think what we're being offered here is worth a dime."

Undeterred, Hirst set out to prove the naysayers wrong. By the end of 1946, the plant was producing 1,000 vehicles a month for local occupying forces and by 1947 began exporting, first to the Netherlands, then all across Europe.

In 1948 he recruited German assistant Heinz Nordhoff, who had run factories for German car manufacturer Opel.

Hirst left Volkswagen in 1949 as a going concern for a career with the Foreign Office based in Paris, where he remained until his retirement in 1975. He died in 2000.

#### When the 101st Airborne Saved Friend and Foe

Since the war, the Volkswagen Beetle has sold more than 21 million units across the world, becoming the most-built motor vehicle in history.

*Vintage News*

May 6, 2020 [Craig Bowman](#)

### **MEMBERSHIP LOYALTY CARDS**

Some of our members might have already noticed our new till system at the bar and we are excited to notify members that our loyalty cards have also arrived. All paid up members are entitled to buy a membership loyalty card at a **once off fee of R35.00**.

The loyalty card will entitle members to a discounted bar price, similar to prices currently available to all patrons on a Friday night. From now onwards we are able to only offer this favorable price to paid up members with a loyalty card. Due to significant price increases this year, prices to non-members will increase in accordance.

You will only be able to swipe your own card at the bar! The card cannot be used by non-members. The EPVCC members discount is offered to paid-up EPVCC members with loyalty cards on all occasions that the bar is open for trading (i.e. every night of the week and weekend events).

If you would like to buy your card – they will be available from Devlin at the bar.

The committee trusts that this will add additional value to your membership.



**EPVCC Caps will be available on Friday night from Devlin when the club re-opens. R100 per cap.**



**A new addition to the bar – an Alpha Crankcase donated by Colin Skinner**

## **SAVVA Technical Tip 160 – Bending plastic tubing and retaining the shape**

Some time ago we received this article from Dane Fraser. Thanks Dane and apologies for taking so long to use it:

From Dane:

If you have ever had to create a sharp bend in the clear tygon tubing, you know how easy it can kink. I bought a new replacement carburetor for a small engine the problem was it came with a straight fuel inlet instead of the 90° one the old one had.

No problem I thought I would just use a piece of 1/4" tygon tubing for the fuel line only when I tried to make it do the sharp bend required to connect between the carb and the gas tank it would kink. I decided to give it a preform by making a shaping mandrel or bendable forming tool that I could insert then bend the tubing.

The best thing I have found for jobs like this is lead as it is easily shaped into whatever form you need and will retain its shape as long as needed. and if required it can be straightened out again. A couple of years ago I made some half round lead sticks by melting the lead and pouring it in grooves for using in leading in seams and small dents in auto-body work. I found that was exactly the diameter I needed when folded double.

I inserted it in the tygon tubing then bent it to the shape I needed. I placed it in a cut open soft drink bottle then poured in boiling water and left it until the water cooled.

To remove the forming tool, I had to straighten it out somewhat, but the tubing retained its shape due to being heated in the boiling water.

**Tubing and tool before forming.**



**Lead tool inserted in tubing**





Formed and in boiling water note the drink bottle deforming



Tubing now formed and cooled



Lead now removed note tubing retains the formed shape



Installed on the engine

I hope this helps someone if they ever find the need to form plastic tubing.

## SAVVA Technical Tip 161 – Magic Magnet

Has anyone else noticed the fact that the older you get how the floor becomes further away when having to bend down to pick something up? Another fact is, I believe its Sods law, that if you drop something it will either disappear forever, never to be found, or end up in the most impossible place to get to. Here is a partial solution to retrieving these fallen objects.

For years I have had a telescopic rod with a magnet on the end. I think originally designed to retrieve things that have fallen down in the engine bay. Over the years I have used it for that purpose, and it has saved the day. In more recent times however, it has become more important to pick things up that have ended up further down - on the floor. Could it be that I have become clumsier, grown taller, or got a bit older?

From being a superfluous tool, it is now one of absolute necessity. Some time ago the little magnet disappeared so I glued on a more powerful one – that increased its usefulness even more.

Suggestion - If you see one for sale, buy it and add it to your tool kit. You may not need it now but given time it could become one of your most important tools.

All I have to do now is to find a magnet that can pick-up aluminum, brass, and plastic.

P.S. Last week I saw them in a “Chinese” shop for about R50.00 each.





## *NEW MEMBERS*

We would like to wish a hearty welcome to the following new member of the club.

**Dr. Chris van der Walt**

## *CONDOLENCES*

Sadly, we wish to advise the death of another long-standing member of the club, Rob Lawrence, who was a regular at the Friday night noggins. Rob passed away on Christmas Day and his wife Lynn who was also in hospital has also subsequently died. Our deepest condolences to all their family and friends.

## Photo Run – 29<sup>th</sup> November 2020

The Photo Run was one of the few events that the club managed to accomplish in 2020 and was held during lockdown Level 1. The run ended at the club for a Bring & Braai.

Participants met at the clubhouse at 9:30am with the following – and not necessarily in that order.

a pen and a clipboard  
a reasonable sense of direction  
good powers of observation  
a little lateral thinking  
a good sense of humour  
the ability to write legibly in a moving car.



Some of the clues.....



....now time to relax



1<sup>st</sup> Place: Rod & Ruth Idris



**2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Marius & Surina van Zyl**



**3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Riaan Hanekom & Carl Prinsloo**

## Xmas Party – 12<sup>th</sup> December 2020

The EPVCC Christmas function took place on Saturday 12 December from 3.00pm at the clubhouse.

This year due to the Covid-19 pandemic and the curfew the club's usual Xmas dinner was cancelled but a very relaxed Xmas Bring and Braai was arranged. There was no cost to the member for the function.

The bar was open, and fires were provided. However, one did have to bring their own cutlery and crockery. Weather wise it was quite a miserable day to start off with, but it did clear up a bit as the day progressed and a dozen or so members attended the braai.

Unfortunately, due to the curfew the club had to be vacated by 9:30pm.

*Just for a laugh.....*

### **THINGY (thing-ee) n.**

Female..... Any part under a car's hood

Male ..... The hook fastener on a woman's bra strap

### **VULNERABLE (vul-ne-ra-bel) adj.**

Female .... Fully opening up one's self emotionally to another

Male ..... Playing cricket without a box

### **COMMUNICATION (ko-moo-ni-kay-shon) n.**

Female ... The open sharing of thoughts and feelings with one's partner

Male ... Leaving a note before taking off on a fishing trip with the boys

### **FLATULENCE (flach-u-lens) n.**

Female .... An embarrassing by-product of indigestion

Male ..... A source of entertainment, self-expression, male bonding



## Last Noggin of the year – Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December 2020

Fortunately, our last event of the year happened during Level 1 lockdown so was very well attended.

Chef Anel went all out and prepared an amazing Xmas dinner for us that was delicious and enjoyed by everyone whether they opted to enjoy it at the club or take it home.



CHICKEN BREAST WITH A CRANBERRY & ROSEMARY STUFFING  
& CRANBERRY & PORT GLAZE  
&  
HONEY GLAZED GAMMON SERVED WITH SWEET MUSTARD SAUCE  
&  
CREAMY GREEN BEANS WITH BACON  
BABY CARROTS WITH A BUTTERY WHISKY GLAZE  
PUMPKIN FRITTERS WITH A STICKY CINNAMON DRIZZLE  
ROAST POTATOES  
FESTIVE GRAVY  
&  
BLACK CHERRY CHEESECAKE

MEAL PRE-BOOKED ORDERS : WHATS APP ANÉL : 065 927 5660

Please note: If a order is placed + no show your will be liable to still pay the full amount



The benches decorated to give a bit of Xmas cheer to the event.



....and the Black Cherry Cheesecake was to die for



Plus, plenty of home-made goodies for sale

## Days Gone By.....



**FNB**  
First National Bank  
Insurance Brokers

**Specialising in Vintage and Veteran Car Insurance  
together with Personal and Business Insurances.**

**CONTACT DETAILS:**

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Branch Manager: Mrs N Meier

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**CLASSIC ADS :**

**FOR SALE & WANTED**

I am looking for a set of 15-inch steel rims 6 lugs for my 1948 Chevrolet Fleetmaster.  
If anyone can help, please contact me at 083-378-1640

I am looking for a front bumper and grill for an Austin A30.

Thanks

Gary Whyte. - Tel: 083-332-0356

Soek big end bearings vir n 1958 Chev apache 3100 bakkie sal waardeer indien iemand my kan help

Dankie Nasie Vermaak – Hofmeyr Oos Kaap - Tel: 087-550-2025