

SOUTH AFRICAN NATIONAL VETERINARY MUSEUM

SOUTH AFRICAN NATIONAL VETERINARY MUSEUM – OPEN DAY AND BLUE PLAQUE EVENT

The SANVM, which is situated on the Onderstepoort Research property, held its first Open Day for visitors since its inception in 2008, on Friday 28th of October 2022. This coincided with the presentation of a prestigious Blue Plaque by the Magaliesberg Association for Culture and History (MACH). The hard work and dedication of the Veterinary History Society's Vice Chair Dr Livio Heath and Museum Curator, Dr Antionette van Schalkwyk, came to fruition.



The VHS Chair Prof Gareth Bath introduced the speakers and the guests of honour on this significant occasion. The guests included Dr Misheck Mulumba from the OVI, Mr Vincent Carruthers and Mr Mike Benn from MACH and Dr Paul van der Merwe, the President of SAVA, and Dr Rudolph Bigalke as the guest speaker. Mr Carruthers took the floor and outlined the background of the work that MACH does, and the significance of the Blue Plaque presented to the SANVM.

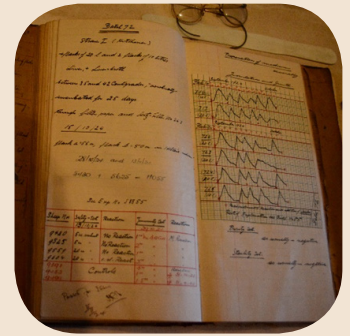


The Blue Plaque, to be mounted later, has a QR code to enable visitors to access more information about the Museum. This is the 15th Blue Plaque installed in the Magaliesberg Biosphere.



The guest speaker Dr Rudolph Bigalke is well-known as an illustrious researcher at Onderstepoort and now also as an historian – he co-edited the book *Onderstepoort 1908 - 2008*.

The history of Veterinary Science and the profession in South Africa was fluently summarized with seemingly effortless recollections of key contributors and events. He could name all the pioneers who were groundbreakers for Veterinary research in a country known for some unique and challenging animal diseases.



<< The Guests of honour
 at the unveiling of the
 Blue Plaque of the South
 African Veterinary
 History Museum.



Dr Bigalke pointing out some
 details on the information panels
 to Mr Carruthers



A representation of what a veterinary office may have looked like at the beginning
 of the twentieth century

