

# OP CLASS OF 1968

**The 55th Anniversary Reunion 1968 OP Class was a resounding success and we thank all attendees who participated. We wish to provide a synopsis of the event.**

In March this year, Merron Galliers contacted Anne-Marie Moore and suggested that as we are all on "skid row" we should arrange another reunion. Coincidentally Peter Shires in the USA was arranging to bring his family and friends to RSA in October. Arrangements were then formalised to organise a reunion to coincide with Peter's visit. Dinokeng Game Reserve was chosen as the venue as it incorporated a wildlife destination, and comfortable accommodation at reasonable cost from Sunday 1st to Tuesday 3rd October 2023. Previous class reunions were held in 1989 at Onderstepoort, 2002 in Fouriesburg, 2010 in Knysna and 2018 in the Cradle of Mankind.

Thirteen classmates and spouses attended the event: Merron Galliers, Maryke Henton, Faffa Malan, Jay Malherbe, David and Anne-Marie Moore, Adrian and Bryony Rogers, Peter Shires, Roger and Joyce Turner, Hercu and Lesley van Niekerk. Rob Taylor was intending to attend but had to cancel due to illness.

The group arrived on Sunday at Chameleon Bush Lodge and after welcome refreshments, we left for a guided game drive organised by Mongema Game Lodge on their 9000-hectare property.

We returned to the Lodge for dinner at their Kingfisher restaurant where we enjoyed a sumptuous three-course dinner in the private Woodlands deck overlooking a tranquil lake that epitomised the bush experience. We enjoyed the evening while reminiscing and regaling with each other about times gone by during our education in the crucible named OP. On Monday, after a leisurely breakfast, the morning was spent game viewing around the reserve. We then met for lunch at the Arlington Brewery and Cidery within the reserve and were able to sample various beers and ciders during our delicious meal. The afternoon was spent relaxing in our comfortable chalets. The evening was spent in the Chameleon Bush Lodge clubhouse and lapa where we enjoyed a superb catered braai in the beautifully decorated venue. The relaxed camaraderie and renewed friendships established the spirit of goodwill that prevailed during the entire reunion.

The successful gathering was concluded after breakfast on Tuesday 3/10/2023 when we bade farewell with the expectation of a future reunion. We wish to thank our sponsors who provided material support for the reunion and included Boehringer-Ingelheim, Idexx Laboratories, Kyron, Lakato, Legacy Pet Crematorium, Vetscripts and V-Tech.

David Moore



**Mongema Outing: Left to Right. Faffa, Roger, Lesley, Hercu, David, Merron, Jay, Maryke, Peter, Podge.**



**Arlington Brewery and Cidery Luncheon: From Let. Faffa, Lesley, Hercu, Maryke, Podge, Merron, Jay, Joyce, Anne-Marie, David, Roger, Peter, Bryony.**



**Left to Right: Merron, Podge, Roger, David, Maryke, Peter, Hercu, Faffa, Jay.**



**Left to Right. Roger, Hercu, Merron, Maryke, David, Peter, Podge, Faffa, Jay.**