

Annual 2018

# BENZ LENS

DIE  
THE

MERCEDES-BENZ CLUB OF SOUTH AFRICA



MERCEDES-BENZ CLUB

*Annual 2018*



---

*Annual 2018*

---



# Contents

---



Introduction	3
Preface	5
President's Report 2018	7
National Committee 2018	18
Special Membership	24
Hero Awards	25
Northern Region Regional Review	31
Western Cape Regional Review	35
Southern Cape Regional Review	39
Eastern Cape Regional Review	43
Central Region Regional Review	47
KwaZulu-Natal Regional Review	51
National Concours 2018	57
AGM 2018 weekend in Cape Town	66
Tailend	73

*Contents*



# Introduction

---

Those who have read my enthusiastic accounts of the Annual President's Meeting, held in Stuttgart, will know what a wonderful opportunity it provides for the sharing of ideas and inspiration between Mercedes-Benz Classic Clubs from around the world. October 2018 was South Africa's time to shine, as I proudly shared with my fellow Presidents our very first edition of the Benz Lens Annual. They were so impressed that many of them got thinking about producing their own Club annuals!

The following feedback was received from Mercedes-Benz Classic Club Management:

*"The BENZ LENS ANNUAL 2017 is a high-quality publication and full of everything related to club life under the patronage of the three-pointed star.*

*Wonderful cars, passionate people and regional reviews with great insights into everyday club life. There is nothing more needed.*

*Our congratulations from Mercedes-Benz Classic Club Management!"*

What a fantastic response to our efforts. My sincere thanks to Stephen Kaalsen, our Bens Lens editor, and everyone involved in the creation of this quality publication. This includes every member of our prestigious Club. Without your loyal membership and active participation, there would be none of the beautiful cars, memorable events or delightful anecdotes that provide for such thoroughly enjoyable reading.

May you treasure this second edition as much as I do.

As always, THE BEST OR NOTHING! ■



**Waldo Scribante**  
President -  
Mercedes-Benz Club of South Africa

Foreword

# Covers of the 33<sup>rd</sup> Editions of the Benz Lens



**IN THIS EDITION**

- Western Cape AGM 4
- Year-end function & Concours 2017 6
- Most special day 9
- Blas & Port Festival 11
- 2018 George Old car show 15
- Northern Region AGM 20
- Continental Day at Piston Ring 25
- The story of Lucozade 28
- K20 Year End Function 35
- Saving and Historic Beauty 41



**IN THIS EDITION**

- Mercedes cars in Thailand 6
- Visit to Piet Moolman 8
- AGM 12
- HERO Awards 14
- Launch of the X-Class in Durban 14
- Air Force Day 31
- Krystna Motor Show 39
- With a little help from friends 43
- Angora Stud Guest Farm & Classic Car 44
- The Koppies breakfast run 46



**IN THIS EDITION**

- Bertha Benz Commemorative Run 6
- Cars in the park Pietermaritzburg 14
- 50 Years of stroke 8 18
- Midmas 23
- The Smart Car 20 Years Old 25
- Southern Cape Bertha Benz Run 29
- Krystna Outing 30
- 130<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Bertha Benz Run 31
- Lourensdorf "Sedan" Breakfast Run 34
- The Idiom Experience 36



**IN THIS EDITION**

- The New EOC 10
- Central Region Namibia Rour 15
- 60 Years of the Fintail 18
- Octoberfest 21
- Concours 2018 27
- My Special Black 1964 220S Finny 35
- Jolly Old Fellow's Run 40
- Wizard on Wheel Show 44
- Clubrun to Toeka Stoor 46
- Killarney Track Day 49



# Preface

---



*Annual 2018*

As editor of the Benz Lens, I found 2018 to be a year in which I truly lived my pen passion. It was like the Boeing was going better than my first year as editor in 2017 and boy, did I enjoy it! The Benz Lens is the official e-magazine and publisher of this highly anticipated and collectable coffee table book with the collection of reports and photographs from 2018 that you are holding in your hands.

Ladies and gentlemen, I present to you:  
The Benz Lens Annual 2018

2018 saw a more streamlined collection of electronic editions of the Benz Lens every quarter. It was like an oiled German engine which had just been run in that produced four extremely successful and over-planned editions for the Benz Lens, and that is all thanks to our involved contributing club members. The self-acclaimed theme

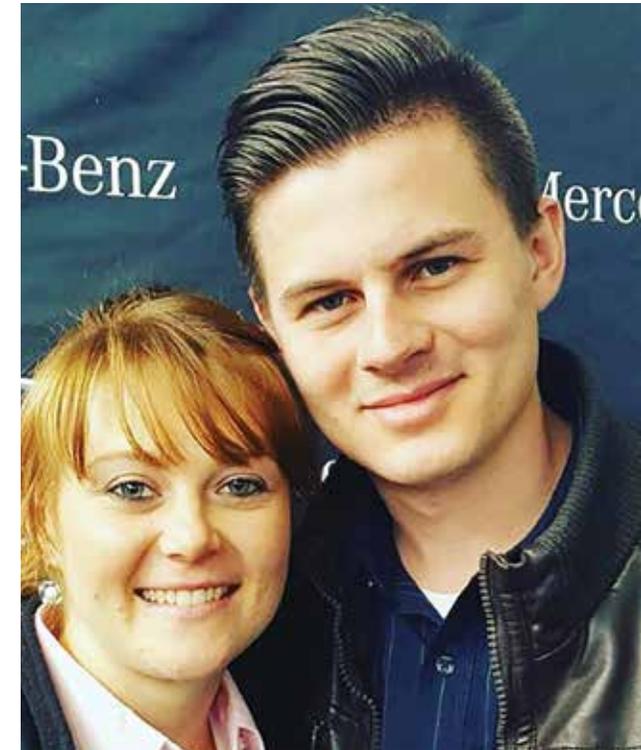
for the year was Stars and their Cars, where some stars were featured with their cars, which now are very sought after classics in their own right.

Sophia Loren showed exactly how her 300SL Gullwing was the perfect companion to her elegant yet relaxed, but also rich yet simple public profile. You, the reader could have first-hand experience of it. Our own star, Sir Stirling Moss proved to us exactly how reliable his 300SL was in the endurance test that was the highlight of his racing career with Mercedes-Benz. You could have read it hot-off-the-press. Michael Jackson showed us that it is actually possible to write a song behind the steering wheel of his Mercedes-Benz W126 whilst driving on the interstate highway at 65 miles per hour! Again, at the click of a button you could have read all about it. In our last edition of the Benz Lens 2018, you could have

seen how the romance unfolded when actors Grace Kelly and Frank Sinatra fell madly in love with each other in the 1956 hit film: High Society.

The Benz Lens is all about publishing reports on noteworthy events, to read more about interesting car-related topics and to enjoy our mutual interest. I would like to thank every contributor and reader of our grotesque undertaking in 2018 for the huge success towards the Benz Lens.

Ladies and gentlemen, I would like to invite you to take a closer look at this posh collection of all the memories and stories, sightings and reportings of the Benz Lens in 2018 which is worthy of being kept at arm's length, right on the corner of your coffee table. And once again, thank you to all the contributors! ■



**Stephen Kaalsen**

*Editor -  
Mercedes-Benz Club of South Africa*

*Preface*



# President's Report 2018

---



It is my pleasure to deliver the President's report for 2018. It is with heartfelt appreciation that I once again thank every member of the Mercedes-Benz Club of South Africa – for your support, commitment and enthusiasm. More than a Club, we are truly a team, and it is the undeniable sense of camaraderie that defines us. It is such an honour and a privilege to serve as President to such a prestigious association; moreover, to work with such a fantastic group of people.

**C**ongratulations to the regional Chairmen, Sven Krassnokutski (Northern Region), Kurt Stassen (Western Cape), Johan Sloet (Southern Cape), Erald Hohls (Eastern Cape), Theo Potgieter (Central Region) and Avish Maharaj (Kwa-Zulu Natal) for leading the regions through another successful year.

It is, however, with great sadness that we bid farewell to Western Cape Regional Chairman Kurt Stassen, as well as Sven Krass de Krassnokutski, Regional Chairman of the Northern Region.

My sincere thanks, for all you both have done for the Club. Your time, expertise and active participation in the Regional and National Committees, along with your ideas, input and enthusiasm, have been instrumental in

building and improving our Club.

To the following regional committee members: JB Wiese (Vice Chairman – Western Cape), Ederik Kritzinger (Secretary – Western Cape), PJ Ryan (Vice Chairman – Northern Region), Jan-Willem Wielsma (Secretary – Northern Region), André Esterhuizen (Treasurer – Northern Region), Suzette Bouwer (Events Coordinator – Northern Region) and Carlos Cardoso (Events Organiser – Northern Region), I thank you for your contributions, time, and efforts in serving on the Regional Committees.

To the newly elected Regional Committees, with Zillen Venter as Chairman in The Western Cape and once again, Steve Rademeyer as Chairman in the Northern Region – congratulations and welcome aboard.

We wish you all the best for the year ahead.

Congratulations to the re-elected Chairmen, Johan Sloet (Southern Cape), Erald Hohls (Eastern Cape), Theo Potgieter (Central Region) and Avish Maharaj (KZN). May 2019 be a great year for you.

The regional Chairmen and their committees are what drive our Club. They do great work and we can't thank them enough for their various efforts toward building our Club and maintaining its levels of excellence. We can all look forward to another exciting year, filled with various outings and world-class events.

I also thank Chris Carlisle-Kitz, our Vice-President, for his unwavering support of our Club.

With a National Secretary as

capable as Annalie Kachelhoffer, it is always a pleasure attending meetings and running the Club. You can rest assured that with Johan Kemp as our National Treasurer, the Club's finances are healthy and well recorded. The bookkeeping is kept in careful check by Gerrida Baard, and Marlize Herholdt, as Membership Secretary, has our member's administration running smooth as only a Mercedes-Benz engine can.

## Regalia

Francois and Olga van der Westhuizen, our Regalia Officers, are travelling up and down the country in a new Mercedes-Benz Vito - thankfully sponsored by MBSA! They had a record sale of regalia at the 2018 George Old Car Show!

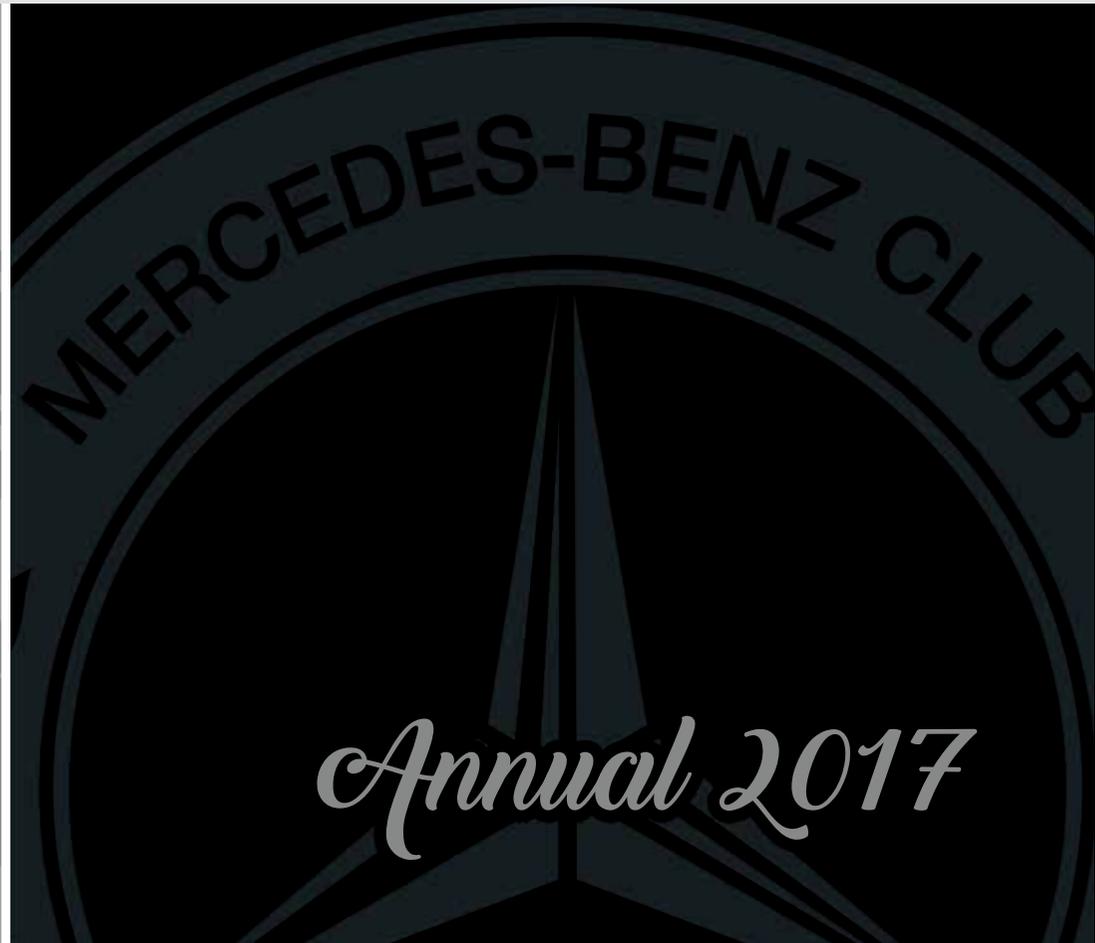
We only did a few sales via our online shop, but hopefully this will increase in the future. Visit our secure shop at <https://www.mercedesbenzclubshop.co.za>, where all our regalia is available, with country-wide door-to-door delivery by Fastnet couriers.

## Benz Lens

At the Gala evening, it was my honour to announce another highlight in the history of the Club, and the history of the Benz Lens - and that is the 1st Benz Lens Annual of 2017. Stephen Kaalsen did a sterling job, and I thank him for producing such a high-quality publication. I trust you will enjoy and cherish it as much as I have.

The Benz Lens Annual 2017 is still available to all members through their regional chairman!

Our digital Benz Lens continues to be a huge success, with our editor Stephen Kaalsen at the wheel. We are invariably proud of every edition - well done and thank you, Stephen!



## Social media

We continue to increase our footprint in the digital Social Media World, with Marcell Mostert leading the way. In a world of instant communication and updates, it is essential that we stay on trend. And even though some of us are still being dragged into the 21st century, kicking

and screaming, we can't help but marvel at the wonder of technology and its many benefits.

## Some of the 2018 Highlights

### Valuation Seminar

The Scribs Benzeum in George hosted the 2<sup>nd</sup> Valuation Seminar,

with 18 members in attendance. We have adopted a new valuation model - developed by Sven Krassnokutski - that reflects car values more accurately, considering condition and model. Should you require the valuation of your car, please contact your regional Chairman, who has the new guidelines in hand.



**George Old Car Show**

The ever-popular SCOCC George Old Car Show, hosted by the Southern Cape region, is set to become the Club's biggest event. We had almost 100 cars registered – and an incredible 21 W114/115's (or /8's as they are known). We celebrated the 50th Anniversary of the model, with a special commemorative Grill Badge sponsored by Ferobrake and presented by Johan Sloet.



Etienne Geel won the Best of Show /8 with his 1967 250 - judged and presented by Chris Carlisle-Kitz, with his usual in-depth analysis. Congratulations Etienne! It was also a great honour and a privilege to show Graham van Heerden's beautiful V114, factory built stretch limousine.

**President's Braai**

For twelve years running, René and I have hosted a sheep braai at the Scribs Benzeum, on the Saturday evening of the show. We're not sure whether it's the tradition or the ice cream and hot chocolate sauce, but it sure seems to be growing in popularity. This year we had a record number of 190 members and friends in attendance!

It's always a pleasure to welcome our past Presidents, to the George Old



Car Show as well as to the sheep braai. We have therefore decided to call it the *President's Braai*, a tradition that we hope will continue well into the future. It was my honour to present Steve Rademeyer, Etienne Geel, Graham van Heerden and Dirk van der Westhuizen with gold Club lapel pins - for their support and service to the Club.

The weekend was a great success and I thank the SCOCC organisers, as well as Johan Sloet, Aldo van Zyl and Dirk Lombard, for managing the Southern Cape portion of the event. A special mention goes to Kobus Harris and Peet Botha, for arranging the layout at the show grounds. Thank you, gentlemen, for the world-class display of our old Merc's.



**Western Cape National Gathering and AGM**

The Mercedes-Benz Club of South Africa's 33rd National Gathering and AGM was hosted by the Western Cape region. They certainly did not disappoint!

To Kurt Stassen and his wife Cara, as well as the Western Cape AGM committee - Cathy van der Westhuizen, Lydia Keppler, Ederik Kritzinger, JB Wiese, Juan Rossouw and Wayne Keppler: We congratulate and thank you for producing an unforgettable 2018 National Gathering and AGM.

We arrived for the registration on Saturday afternoon. Sunday's highlight was a bus tour via Chapman's Peak, with a splendid lunch at the Black Marlin (highly recommended



for visitors to the Cape). Sunday evening's caricature drawing was highly entertaining, with fun and laughter accompanying the reveal of each new sketch.

Rickety Bridge was the perfect choice for our Monday lunch and wine-tasting, followed by a very successful AGM meeting. Of course, the absolute highlight was the Gala evening, with the Western Cape region once again impressing us with their extravagance.

At the AGM, the 2017 National Committee was re-elected unopposed. Congratulations to Chris Carlisle-Kitz – Vice President, Annalie Kachelhoffer – National Secretary, and Johan Kemp – National Treasurer for another term in the National Committee. Together with our regional Chairmen, I am

privileged to once again lead our Club into 2019.

Our retiring Membership Secretary, Pieter Moolman, was thanked for his hard work. Marlize Herholdt has taken on the role as our new Membership Secretary, under the National Treasurer's supervision.

Avish Maharaj nominated Warren Geyser (Vice Chairman of Kwa-Zulu Natal) for a special membership in recognition of his outstanding efforts to promote and grow the MBCSA. The National Committee approved the motion and the members at the AGM unanimously agreed. Warren has made an invaluable contribution to the KZN region and the Club as a whole - financially and through his support at various events throughout the country.

The Gala evening provided a

wonderful opportunity to present Hero awards to the following Western Cape members: Bill Tolken, Okkie Potgieter, Theo Claassen, Fred Winkel and André du Toit. I thank them once again for their significant efforts and support of the Club.

Much to my surprise, Chris Carlisle-Kitz, on behalf of the National Committee, presented me with a Hero award, too! Although I am incredibly honoured to have this award bestowed upon me, it is important to remember that the success of the National Committee relies on our ability to work as a team – and what a fine team we are!

Once again, well done to Kurt and his team for a fantastic weekend of true motoring fellowship and camaraderie. For sharing the best of the Western Cape with us, and for your warmth and generous hospitality.

### JULY MIDMAS

René and I took a wintery road trip to the Kruger National Park in mid-July. The perfect opportunity to spend some quality time with Club members along the way.

After an early morning start on the Saturday, we arrived safely in Bloemfontein that mid-afternoon. No sooner had we arrived when an enthusiastic Louis Coetzer invited us over to check out his latest additions. What a treat to behold such an amazing collection.

The Central region entertained

us that evening, with a braai at the Kachelhoffer's Shed. The cold (actually, Bloem-ing icy) weather had my teeth chattering, but the warmth of the Free State hospitality made up for it. We thoroughly enjoyed our time among Jaco's cars.

The early morning saw us back on the road for a week's holiday in the Kruger Park.

### A merry Midmas

Following our Kruger break, tradition called us to the Drakensberg. We joined the Northern region on their 20th annual Midmas run, initiated by Ernest de Meyenier - a past R107 SL register captain, who is best remembered for this epic event. The 10th Midmas in 2008 was also held in the Drakensberg.

Mrs Claus, Suzette Bower, was responsible for making this awesome weekend possible – assisted, of course, by her elves: Sven, Jan Willem, Anna-Lee, PJ and Clive. Thank you, Suzette, and your happy helpers, for the incredible effort.

Forever entrenched in our memories will be the experience of Chris Carlisle-Kitz, playing the role of Father Christmas and assisted by his elf, Alabaster Snowflake (Snowball), aka Louis Weitz.

My wife's competitive nature shone through at the quiz that night, when she attempted to secure a win for her Red team with the illegal help of Google! With equal desperation, my own attempt at the same tactics failed



miserably under the watchful eye of quiz master Clive Winterstein. We all had an absolute blast – despite my penalties incurred.

To those who were unable to join, I cannot recommend this event enough and I encourage you to join in the fun next time. Thank you to everyone involved – the organisers and the attendees!

#### **Bertha Benz 130th Anniversary Run**

Sunday, 12 August 2018, was truly a momentous day, with all the regions of the Club celebrating the Bertha Benz 130th Anniversary run. What a wonderful opportunity to celebrate the ingenuity and success of such a courageous woman.

Travelling an impressive 106km from Mannheim to Pforzheim (to visit her mother), Bertha Benz was the first ever person to drive an automobile over long distance. Not only did Bertha's pioneering trip serve as encouragement to her husband, convincing him that he should keep pursuing his dream – it also proved to the world the quality of the Benz.

It was on her 95th birthday, in 1944, that Bertha was bestowed the title Honourable Senator, by the Technical University of Karlsruhe. The University was her husband Karl's alma mater, and they had also awarded an honorary doctorate degree to him during his lifetime. Two days after the prestigious title had been awarded, Bertha Benz passed away in her villa in Ladenburg.

Karl Benz wrote the following in his memoirs: "Only one person remained with me in the small ship of life when it seemed destined to sink. That was my wife - Bertha. Bravely and resolutely she set the new sails of hope."

One cannot help but marvel at Bertha's ingenuity. What she accomplished was simply incredible. It was with a great deal of excitement, assurance and respect that I made the day's drive with René at the wheel of our 1913 Benz. My very own Bertha got us from Plettenberg Bay to George in true Benz style.

Much appreciation and thanks go to former Club President, Dirk van der Westhuizen, for making this wonderful day possible. Dirk even organised lovely commemorative coins and Grill Badges, which quickly became collector's items.

Thank you to our regional chairmen and their teams, for arranging the regional runs on this Women's Day weekend.

In honour of Bertha, an amazing woman who played such a critical role in the development of the Benz – as well as all the women in our lives, who continue to support our love for the brand – I trust you all enjoyed a wonderful and inspiring Anniversary Run.



### **National Concours**

Our September highlight, and my personal favourite, the National Concours once again took place in the Northern region. The McCarthy Lifestyle Center in Menlyn hosted the event and we offer an extra special thanks to Hein Lorenz for his continued support and sponsorship, making this our STAR event.

Many thanks to Sven Krassnokutski, Koos du Toit and André Esterhuizen for all their hard work, as well as to Ettienne Geel and his panel of judges.

Congratulations to all the participants who took the time and effort to show their beauties. It is an absolute privilege to share in the joy of admiring these classics that are dear to all our hearts!

Congratulations to George Naudé, winner of the Prix d'État Youngtimer, Grand Prix d'État and Prix d'Honneur, with his 1991 C126 560SEC. Congratulations to the Prix d'État Oldtimer winner – Stephen Kaalsen, with his 1969 W108 280S and the Prix d'État Youngtimer winner – Chris Cloete, with his 2012 R171 SLK200.

Warren Geyser won the President's award, with his 1956 W120 180D Bakkie, and Clive Winterstein walked away with the Ladies choice, with his 1960 W128 220SE Cabriolet.

### **WOW Motor Show**

I joined the Eastern Cape region's Wizard on Wheels Motor Show at the end of September. What a great weekend! Sincere thanks, once again,

to Erald and the Eastern Cape members for being such gracious hosts. Your warmth and hospitality are always appreciated.

### **International President's Meeting**

October brought another amazing opportunity for me to represent South Africa at the annual International Presidents' Meeting, hosted in Stuttgart by Mercedes-Benz Classic Club Management (MBCCM). What an incredible honour it is for club leaders from around the world to get together. With a great deal of networking and exchanging of ideas, this annual event further strengthens our international ties and builds camaraderie between nations. This year, 59 Presidents attended, including representation of the new Mercedes-Benz Club of Kenya.





### **An unforgettable weekend**

We had the honour of being one of the first groups to visit the near completed Daimler Proving Ground and Technology Center at Immendingen - a two-hour bus drive from Stuttgart.

Using an old abandoned army tank training area, Daimler AG broke ground in 2015. It is known to be one of the biggest earthmoving projects undertaken in Europe!

German Chancellor Angela Merkel opened this world class RD facility in September 2018. The Proving Ground is used for testing highly

innovative vehicles. The emphasis is on accident-free driving (assistance systems and autonomous driving) and emission-free driving (optimising of the combustion, alternative drive technologies and light-weight construction).

The yet to be completed Technology Center will house engineers' offices, workshops, halls and test benches.

Spanning an incredible 520ha, the Proving Ground includes a 55km test track, 12 km dirt track and 30ha of asphalt surfaces, allowing for a whopping 300-400 vehicles to be tested simultaneously. 35 testing

modules include dynamic driving ground, rough road, an oval circuit, an endurance course, a handling course, straightaway, water crossing track, wet handling course and brake measurement run. And this is just to name a few!

A particularly interesting Proving Ground is the Bertha Area - a 100,000m<sup>2</sup> of absolutely level asphalt. (Just imagine the engineering that goes into these testing grounds - never mind the vehicles!) This area is used for testing driver assistance systems, systems especially in (semi) autonomous operations, simulation

of safety-critical traffic situations using robot vehicles, and for the performance of driving manoeuvres for vehicle misuse tests. It is also an ideal testing opportunity for car-to-car communications.

A fascinating bus tour of the facility was followed by a delicious dinner at the Technology Center.

On the Saturday, welcome speeches by Christiaan Boucke, Alexandra Süß and Georg Wohlfhart, were followed by some interesting presentations from MBCCM members.





### Review of Silver Star Award

This year's award for outstanding achievement went to:

**Jim Luikens - Mercedes-Benz Club of America**

A Club member for over 36 years, and active in a wide range of management positions:

- Member of the Club Committee, editor-in-chief, regional meeting organizer, publisher of several newsletters etc.
- A true Mercedes-Benz enthusiast who has owned over 50 Mercedes-Benz vehicles over the decades
- Recipient of innumerable awards for his activities as editor/in-chief and publisher of various magazines, newsletters, books and event programmes (on behalf of MBUSA for Pebble Beach/Anella Island)
- Has probably the largest collection of historical Mercedes-Benz memorabilia in the USA, and has acted as a "historical consultant" for MBUSA.

All in all, an absolutely exceptional personality who has acted in the service of the Club and as an ambassador for the brand over several decades, and has decidedly left his mark on the MBCA. The Silver Star was not awarded to him as a former Club President, but rather to intentionally honour his "editorial work" for the Club.

Many congratulations!!

### Outlook on 2018 Club anniversaries

10 years	Mercedes-Benz Club Iran	30 years	vltb- www.mercedesclub.de	
20 years	Mercedes-Benz SLK-Club e.V.	40 years	Mercedes-Benz 300 SL-Club	Mercedes-Benz Club Belgium
25 years	Unimog-Club Guggenau		Mercedes-Benz 190 SL-Club Italia	



**The following Club anniversaries for 2018:**

That evening we enjoyed Wine Tasting at the Wilhelm Kern Family Winery restaurant, where we celebrated Harvest day and tasted the newly pressed must juice, which was simply delicious.

The MBCCM team had a final surprise for us that evening: A glorious preview of Mercedes-Benz's new EQ! Car #12, to be exact - presented by the Michael Kelz, Chief Engineer E-/CLS-/GLC-Klasse & EQ. What a super experience!

The air of exclusivity prevailed on Sunday, when we were privileged to have an insider tour of the MB museum.

We had a look at the Classics and Youngtimers for sale at "All Time Stars", and after lunch it was once again time for a quick farewell, which came far too soon for my liking!

Heartfelt appreciation and thanks go to Georg Wohlfarth and Marcel Schuh of MBCCM, for another jam-



packed, inspirational, dream weekend for this Benz-aholic - and of course, for their brilliant support of MBCSA.

### KZN Year-end

AGM formalities and voting out of the way, it was an absolute treat to join the KZN region's year end function. The Salt Rock Beach Hotel on the Dolphin Coast is undoubtedly one of the most beautiful venues.

Secretly knowing that "Mrs. President" had celebrated her birthday recently, the region sang to her and cut a scrumptious cake. Sharing this surprise celebration with our Mercedes-Benz family was incredibly touching. We thoroughly enjoyed the event, taking in the spectacular views and the great KZN warmth.

### Southern Cape Year-end

It was my and René's great pleasure to once again host the Southern Cape region's year-end sheep braai (with customary "Pap & bredie") under the old American Plain Tree at our home. Although the skies threatened at times, we enjoyed perfect weather all the way through to the customary Magnum ice creams.

Congratulations to the Concours d'Élegance winner, André Fourie with his 1950's 300 Cabriolet, and Gerrit Lambrechts in second place with his 560SEC. So, ended another successful year.

### Drive to increase membership numbers

The success of our Club relies on our membership numbers. On a serious note, our membership numbers are slowly declining. This puts pressure on the Club's finances, and our ability to maintain our level of excellence in all that our prestigious Club puts its name to.

In an effort to bolster our membership, the National Committee have agreed to start a "Join the Club" drive. We will display banners and hand out pamphlets at all of our events, encouraging people to join. We kindly request your support in strengthening our numbers, by finding new members. Please share our social media posts and invite friends/potential members to join us on outings and events. Once they have experienced the camaraderie of the MBCSA, it's hard to say no! ■

By the time you receive this edition of the Benz Lens Annual, Christmas would have past and 2019 started. We wish you a wonderful year ahead!

**Mercedes-Benz Club Shop**  
South Africa

[regalia@mercedesbenzclub.co.za](mailto:regalia@mercedesbenzclub.co.za)  
[www.mercedesbenzclubshop.co.za](http://www.mercedesbenzclubshop.co.za)

**JOIN THE MERCEDES-BENZ CLUB**

SMS "MB CLUB" to 32541 to join today!  
or  
Download application form  
[www.mercedesbenzclub.co.za](http://www.mercedesbenzclub.co.za)

**MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS**

- Club meetings, events, outings
- National Gathering & AGM
- National Concours
- Club Forum
- BENZ LENS
- Valuations
- Special discounts
- Club name tag
- International MB Club card

Follow us

[www.mercedesbenzclub.co.za](http://www.mercedesbenzclub.co.za)



*Annual 2018*

# National Committee 2018

---

Waldo Scribante

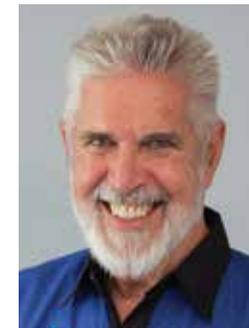
**President** | C: 082 802 3280 | E: president@mercedesbenzclub.co.za



**Year joining Club:** Joined Mercedes-Benz Club of South Africa the 9<sup>th</sup> of June 1996  
**Elected as Chairman:** Southern Cape Chairman 2004 | **Previous position held in the Club:** Membership Secretary 2006  
**Name of spouse / partner:** René | **In brief:** Waldo's first memory in life is of him in his father's 1960 219 Ponton, towing a caravan over the Prince Alfred Pass in the Southern Cape. As teenager his father owned a W116 280SE and R107 450SL and he became passionate of the Mercedes-Benz STA R. Bought my first classic car in 1996, a W112 300SEL Fintail, and the rest is history! His Collection of Mercedes-Benz vehicles can be seen in his SCRIBS BENZeum. He is supported by his wife René, also a passionate member of the Club, an enthusiast and Veteran driver of their 1913 8/20PS BENZ Tourer |  
**Affiliations to other clubs?** Southern Cape Old Car Club (SCOCC).

Chris Carlisle-Kitz

**Vice-President** | C: 082 966 3463 | E: vp@mercedesbenzclub.co.za



**Date of joining club:** 2008 | **Date/year elected as chairman/other:** Vice-president -2017  
**Previous positions held in club – both regional and national committees:** Chairman - KZN region 2008; Committee member - Northern Region | **Name of spouse / partner:** Anna-Lee Dos Santos | **Names and ages of children:** 3 all over 21 | **Occupation:** Retired | **Favourite vehicle in own collection:** 1963 220SEb Fintail; East African Safari Rally car | **What do you enjoy most about the club?** Events, AGM's, Noggin and comraderie | **Affiliations to other clubs?** Legends of the 9 hour racing club, Historic racing South Africa, Sport Car Club of South Africa and Retro Racing South Africa.

# National Committee 2018

---

## Annalie Kachelhoffer

**National Secretary** | C: 084 205 5411 | E: secretary@mercedesbenzclub.co.za



**Date of joining club:** 2012 | **Date/year elected as chairman/other:** National Secretary - 2015 to date | **Previous positions held in club – both regional and national committees:** Chairlady Central Region 2012, 2013 and 2014. From 2015 – 2017 handled the Regalia affairs together with husband Jaco | **Name of spouse / partner:** Jaco | **Names and ages of children:** Own: Hein 37 yrs; Stepchildren: Hanco 34, Werner 30, Anè 27 | **Occupation:** Retired | **Favourite vehicle in own collection:** 1959 190 Ponton | **What do you enjoy most about the club?** Opportunity to socialise with friends, the shared enthusiasm and, of course, admiring and sharing our passion about our cars.

## Johan Kemp

**National Treasurer** | C: 083 457 1092 | E: treasurer@mercedesbenzclub.co.za



**Date of joining club:** 2010 | **Date/year elected as chairman/other:** National Treasurer - 2016 | **Name of spouse / partner:** Lizaan | **Names and ages of children:** Mari (13), Ané (10) | **Occupation:** Accountant / Auditor / CA (SA) | **Favourite vehicle in own collection:** An unfair question! Usually the one I am driving all the time of thw question. But if I have to pick one: 1952 W191 170DS | **What do you enjoy most about the club?** Good times of socialising wit friends that i have made all over the country | **Affiliations to other clubs?** None at the moment - unlikely but not impossible to happen

# National Committee 2018

---

Sven Krassnokutski

**Northern Region** | C: 082 685 8204 | E: northern@mercedesbenzclub.co.za



**Date of joining club:** 2010 | **Date/year elected as chairman/other:** Joined committee from 2011, have served on the Northern Region Committee in various capacities since then, as below | **Previous positions held in club – both regional and national committees:** Positions held on Northern Region Committee: regional editor (Northern Star), treasurer for the Northern Region and Regional Vice-Chairman Appointed Director of National Concours | **Name of spouse / partner:** B | **Names and ages of children:** Leah (10), Nina (8) | **Occupation:** Group Finance Executive | **Favourite vehicle in own collection:** Each has their unique character but the S55 is simply sublime | **What do you enjoy most about the club?** Opportunity to socialise with friends, the shared enthusiasm and, of course, admiring and sharing our passion about our cars | **Details of rest of regional committee members:** VICE-CHAIRMAN: PJ Ryan; SECRETARY: Jan-Willem Wielsma ADDITIONAL: Suzette Bouwer (Events Co-Ordinator); Carlos Cardoso (Events Organiser); Anna-Lee Dos Santos (Regional Membership Secretary); Marcell Mostert (National Social Media Officer); André Esterhuizen (Treasurer); Chris Carlisle-Kitz (Club Vice-President); **Co-Opted during 2018 for continuity into 2019:** Steve Rademeyer; Jeanette St James; Shynelle Greeff; Morné Greeff | **Affiliations to other clubs?** No other Car clubs Swiss Club Alpina.

Kurt Stassen

**Western Cape Region** | C: 082 415 8815 | E: wcape@mercedesbenzclub.co.za



**Date of joining club:** 2007 | **Date/year elected as chairman/other:** May 2012 | **Name of spouse / partner:** Cara Stassen | **Occupation:** Self Employed | **Favourite vehicle in own collection:** SL63 AMG | **What do you enjoy most about the club?** The camaraderies amongst members and of course the cars! | **Details of rest of regional committee members:** VICE-CHAIRMAN: JB Wiese; SECRETARY: Ederik Kritzing.

# National Committee 2018

---

## Johan Sloet

**Southern Cape Region** | C: 083 640 7455 | E: scape@mercedesbenzclub.co.za



**Date of joining club:** 2008 | **Date/year elected as chairman/other:** 2013: Vice-Charman; 2014: Chairman; 2015: Secretary; 2016 To Current: Chairman | **Previous positions held in club – both regional and national committees:** Vice-Charman, Chairman, Secretary (Regional) | **Name of spouse / partner:** Ilze | **Names and ages of children:** Henk (35), Amor (34) and Lize (30) and two grandchildren | **Occupation:** Attorney | **Favourite vehicle in own collection:** My slightly battered 1980 450SLC with more than 300 000 km on the clock | **Details of rest of regional committee members:** SECRETARY: Aldo van Zyl ADDITIONAL: Pieter Lourens; Chris Kühn | **Affiliations to other clubs?:** Southern Cape Old Car Club.

## Erald Hohls

**Eastern Cape Region** | C: 082 443 8379 | E: escape@mercedesbenzclub.co.za



**Date of joining club:** February 2007 | **Date/year elected as chairman/other:** Chairman - November 2015 to date | **Previous positions held in club – both regional and national committees:** Events co-ordinator KZN region and Secretary for Eastern Cape region | **Name of spouse / partner:** Sherrol | **Names and ages of children:** Vyonne (30), Nicola (28) | **Occupation:** Consultant | **Favourite vehicle in own collection:** 1951 W136 170 DA | **What do you enjoy most about the club?** Sharing the Passion for the Brand with fellow Club Members and preserving the Mercedes-Benz Heritage. | **Details of rest of regional committee members:** SECRETARY: Malcolm Campbell ADDITIONAL: Johannes Coetzer, Colin Meyer, Pieter Moolman | **Affiliations to other clubs?:** Border Vintage Car Club (BVCC)

# National Committee 2018

---

Theo Potgieter

**Central Region** | C: 084 551 6122 | E: central@mercedesbenzclub.co.za

**Date of joining club:** 2011 | **Date/year elected as chairman/other:** 2018 | **Occupation:** Business owner | **Favourite vehicle in own collection:** Mercedes W123 280E 1980 | **What do you enjoy most about the club?** The multitude of cars. | **Details of rest of regional committee members:** VICE-CHAIRMAN: Fanie du Preez; SECRETARY: Anita du Preez; ADDITIONAL: Van Syl van Pletzen | **Affiliations to other clubs?** Yes, chairman of the Oprange Free State Veteran Car Club



Avish Maharaj

**Kwa-Zulu Natal Region** | C: 071 672 8156 | E: kzn@mercedesbenzclub.co.za

**Date of joining club:** 2007 | **Date/year elected as chairman/other:** 2015 | **Previous positions held in club – both regional and national committees:** Vice Chairman KZN | **Name of spouse / partner:** Mira Maharaj | **Names and ages of children:** Kush (12), Kashmir (7) | **Occupation:** Business Owner | **Favourite vehicle in own collection:** R107 500SL | **What do you enjoy most about the club?** Meeting up with and spending time with likeminded enthusiasts. Hosting and attending events. The camaraderie and friendship. Taking photos of Johan Kemp when he least expects it | **Details of rest of regional committee members:** VICE-CHAIRMAN: Warren Geyser | SECRETARY: Des Armstrong



# National Committee 2018

---

## Stephen Kaalsen

**Editor** | C: 083 234 7653 | E: editor@mercedesbenzclub.co.za



**Date of joining club:** January 2012 | **Date/year elected as chairman/other:** Benz-Lens Editor – January 2017 to date | **Name of spouse / partner:** Claudine Kaalsen | **Names and ages of children:** Constance Kaalsen; (230S Fintail) – 53 years old ...and a few others | **Occupation:** Motor Car Sales Manager | **Favourite vehicle in own collection:** 1966 230S Fintail | **What do you enjoy most about the club?** Waldo Scribante's 300SEL 6.3 | **Affiliations to other clubs?** Secretary of the Klerksdorp Sportscar Club

## Regalia Officers

C: 082 055 2275 or 082 379 6240

E: regalia@mercedesbenzclub.co.za



Olga van der Westhuizen



Francois van der Westhuizen

## Marcell Mostert

**Social Media** | C: 083 704 3223 | E: socialmedia@mercedesbenzclub.co.za



**Date of joining the club:** February 2014 | **Date/year elected:** First quarter of 2016 | **Name of partner:** Julius Gouws | **Occupation:** Aspiring Chartered Accountant (in training) | **Favourite vehicle in ownership:** All of them and a few BMWs which should not be named | **What do you enjoy most about the club:** Endless car-talk and hearing club members' opinion of old BMWs.

**Date of joining the club:** March 2016 | **Date/year elected:** 2017 | **Name of partner:** Spouse Francois | **Occupation:** Occupation Francois Operations Manager Olga Office Manager | **Favourite vehicle in ownership:** Francois CLS 350 Olga SLK 200 | **What do you enjoy most about the club:** Francois- The passion for the brand Olga - The people and socializing

# SPECIAL MEMBERSHIP

Warren Geyser is the vice chairman of Mercedes-Benz Club of South Africa's KZN region. He resides in Pietermaritzburg, is married to Dody, and they have two beautiful daughters, Courtney and Mia.

Warren is an avid collector of Mercedes-Benz cars and has a beautiful museum, home to a stunning array of vehicles, with particular emphasis on the Ponton range, which Warren so dearly loves.

He is currently doing a concours restoration on a ponton bakkie project that will be participating at the Mercedes-Benz national concours in Pretoria. Warren has made an invaluable contribution to the KZN region and the club as a whole - not only financially, but also through support at various events throughout the country. We honour him with this award, in recognition of his outstanding efforts to promote and grow the MBCSA. ■ - *Avish Maharaj*



ANDRÉ DU TOIT

---

# HERO AWARD

I met our next recipient at the Rola Benzfest in 2001. I was looking for someone to restore my 220 Coupé and was told that he is the man to speak to. And so, our relationship started, and René and I became very good friends with him and his lovely wife Tinneke. YES, I am referring to André du Toit.

Together we have done some amazing restorations, especially the 1935 130H and the 1938 320. Not that he's always been a willing partner; especially with some of the rust-buckets I have bought over the years! But with his knowledge and expertise, he did it. When I first met him, I only owned three old cars - but with his enthusiasm, he fuelled my obsession for our old classics. The rest, as they say, is history.

After my short attempt to teach René to drive the old Benz, André took over the instructor's role, and so our own Berta Benz was born. She has fond memories of him risking his life, accompanying her on her first Rally with Benzie, tapping her gently on the shoulder every now and again to slow down.

He loves Cape Town, and whenever we visit, he shows us the beauty of the city - taking us for coffee at the best, hippest and most happening places.

I also had the privilege of visiting Germany and the Mannheim Veterama with him, and to see him go through all the rusty parts. Observing his knowledge at work is amazing.

When Graham van Heerden revived the Western Cape region, André was one of the first Capetonians to join, in 1998. Since then, André has made a sizeable contribution to the club.

I still remember the 1<sup>st</sup> Pagoda run he organised in 2003, at his good friend Dennis Porter's farm. He again helped Kurt and Lydia with the Pagoda run to Greyton two years ago. His technical knowledge of the classic cars is unparalleled, and he is the local "go-to" man.

André started his working career in the printing industry in 1955/56. He then went into the retail business, marketing Yamaha motorcycles and outboard engines, as well as selling BMW motorbikes in the early 1970's.

His introduction to Mercedes Benz was in 1968, when he bought a 220s Ponton. In this car, which today he stills says was a magnificent vehicle, he did many cross-country trips with his family. Being a curious person, and with a yearning for the roads less travelled, he loved to go exploring the country, using the gravel roads through farms and valleys. He was one of two South Africans invited to Germany for the Centennial of the Car, with his 1939 230S Cabriolet. Having rebuilt many cars over the years - every nut and bolt - André has a keen eye for a potentially good car. His love of classic cars goes further than just Mercedes-Benz. He is the president of the Crank Handle Club, of which he is also a founding member.

On behalf of the Mercedes-Benz Club of South Africa, I am very honoured to make this presentation to André. ■



*Hero*

---

# HERO AWARD



As a young boy, he was already interested in cars. While at University, he owned a Buick. I'm not sure what that is... But during the course of his life, I know he has owned a few very nice cars.

In 1966, he bought himself a 230SL Pagoda, and Kobus Harris told me how they took the car for a spin through the streets of Durbanville, "just to check that everything was fine". I assumed that everything was "fine", as I understood they left a few rubber stripes behind.

Yes, I am referring to none other than our very own Mr. "HOESDAAI", Bill Tolken.

Bill served on the 1st regional committee of the club under the chairmanship of Graham van Heerden, he has been

a dedicated member, always ready to offer valuable legal advice when called upon. He is still very active - and is known to all as "a gentleman, with a wonderful contagious laugh."

Bill's cars have always been in an immaculate condition, setting a fine example to the rest of the club. Your evening will not be complete without hearing the story of HOESDAAI! Best you ask him to tell you the story himself...

It's an honour presenting this Hero Award to Bill Tolken. HOESDAAI! ■ - *Kobus Harris*

*Hero*

FRED WINKEL

---

# HERO AWARD

The Dutchman was kicked out of Holland as a newlywed, and together with his wife, Els, Fred Winkel made the voyage to darkest Africa, via ship.

The Dutchman soon told the Germans how to improve their products, and Fred made his way up the corporate ladder, earning himself the position of service manager at what was then Orbit Motors.

Fred's knowledge and expertise on anything Mercedes-related became legendary. When Graham van Heerden purchased a W109 6.3 about 14 years ago, no one in the Western Cape was able to sort out the gremlins that had accompanied the car. Desperate, Graham called Fred, who told him in no uncertain terms that he wasn't interested in private work. Fast-forward a few weeks, and Fred called back to say that he would assist, on condition that he did it at Graham's premises - and in secret!

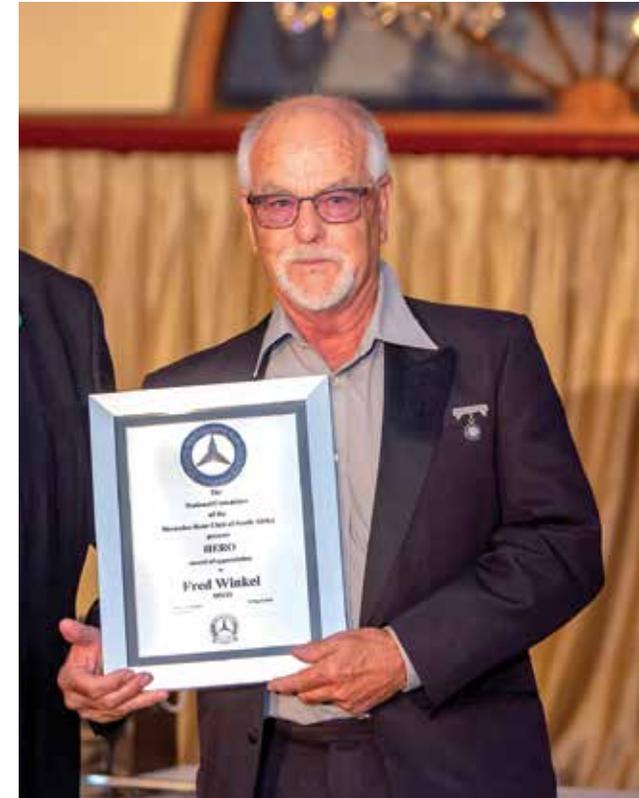
Well, the secret was soon out when the 6.3's health was miraculously restored and everyone in the club was nosey as to the secretive expert who did the work.

One thing led to the next, and Fred soon found himself in the predicament that he had tried to avoid. He was inundated with requests for work on older Mercedes. When Orbit moved to their new premises in Century City, Fred saw the opportunity to take early retirement, and thus "DIE WERKSWINKEL" was born.

Over the years, Fred has probably interacted with most of the Western Cape club members and their cars, even assisting upcountry members from time to time. Always impressing with his vast knowledge on anything Mercedes, Fred unfortunately developed serious health issues and he has now officially closed shop. Despite that, he still gladly assists with support and advice when required.

The club is honoured to have someone of Fred's calibre in their midst, and we are indebted to him for all the work he has done to single-handedly improve our cars.

Fred has become a loyal friend to most of us in the club. We wish him improved health and a happy retirement. ■  
- *Graham van Heerden*



*Hero*

# HERO AWARD



The next recipient is one of the stalwarts of the Western Cape Mercedes-Benz fraternity. A true gentleman, he is always offering advice and assistance, lending an ear when someone is in need.

He was a dormant member of the club for a number of years, paying his subs but not actively involved with the club activities.

When he did get involved, his momentum carried the club forward with renewed vigour. The club meetings in the Western Cape became popular and attendance figures started climbing for both club meetings and club runs. The Western Cape's annual end-of-year function became the highlight of the year, with Okkie making his beautiful estate and facilities available to the club for the day.

Okkie, being older than most of us on a tour to Germany, initially reminded us of his "old age" and the fact that he might hold us younger ones back. It soon became apparent

that Okkie was the one with endless energy and drive! The rest of the group tapped into his obvious enjoyment of everything, and his contagious sense of humour.

The true gentleman that he is, every woman Okkie meets has a common name: "MY SWEETIE!" Instead of feeling patronised, women appreciate his genuineness and they all adore him. Barbara, we know you have it tough with him sometimes!

Many club members can attest to the fact that they have interacted with Okkie on more levels than just cars. He has become a much loved and respected member of our fraternity, and for the value he has added to the club, we honour him this evening. ■ - *Graham van Heerden*

*Hero*

THEO CLAASSEN

---

# HERO AWARD

Our next Hero recipient was raised under the proverbial star. His father, Laurie Claassen, owned the Mercedes-Benz agency, ROLA Motors, in the Strand, where they lived in a flat above the garage. Theo Claassen started working there from a young age – his first job during school holidays and on weekends was as a petrol jockey.

He lived and breathed cars, familiarized himself with all the facets of the business, and later succeeded his father in managing the ROLA Group.

Theo is a well-seasoned business-man, but has a small heart, always willing to help his friends, but beware; Theo is a known practical joker. Together with his friend Jannie, the 2 musketeers and with anybody they can commandeer to join them, have travelled the back-roads of South Africa in search of interesting cars.

Those who know Theo will attest to his passion for classic cars – in particular, for Mercedes-Benz, of which he has an exceptional collection and knowledge.

Theo also served on the 1st regional committee of the Western Cape with Graham van Heerden. Later he served as National Treasurer on the National Committee of the Club for many years.

He was also involved in many successful meetings and outings, often attending events with interesting vehicles, including the famous “ROLAcoaster”.

Theo has always been there for the Club, in service as well as with many generous donations and sponsorships.

■ - *Kobus Harris*



*Hero*

# HERO AWARD



This hero was unanimously approved for the award without any reservations from any member of the National Committee.

He is a lifelong enthusiast who has served the Club with distinction right from the start of his membership. Today he is still hard at work and making a difference in all aspects of the functioning of the Club, from which all of us have already benefitted and will continue to enjoy as the year progresses.

His commitment to drive the club's objectives at National and international level requires much hard work, dedication to which he tirelessly applies himself, and love for the club.

In a relatively short period of time, he has modernised the Club through his support of all social media agenda, supported technological advancements proposed to him to enable ease of joining the Club, taken the regalia

shop online, altered the structures underpinning the operation of the Club, driven advancements in providing services to members, collaborated with Mercedes-Benz Clubs International, continuing to raise the profile of the South African Club in this community and successfully continuing an engaging partnership with Mercedes-Benz South Africa.

This avid collector of Mercedes cars; both big and small also enjoys entertaining and is particularly well known for his annual braai.

This man is of course our very popular and well-loved President Waldo Scribante. ■ - *Christopher Carlisle-Kitz*

*Hero*



---

*Regional Review*

---

*Northern*



# Northern Region

---



*Annual 2018*

2017, with its numerous highlights and successes was always going to be a tough act to follow but the Northern Region Committee was ready to take on the challenge to raise the bar even higher in 2018. And raise it they did!

A very full events calendar was kicked off with the now traditional year-opening function organised by the Klerksdorp Sports Car Club. What a wonderful start to the year! An extremely interesting mine tour (over 3km underground) complemented the exceptional Klerksdorp hospitality and a weekend of lekker kuier. We were delighted to be joined by Annalie and Jaco Kachelhoffer from the Central Region for the weekend.

2018 was a record-breaking year. The number of members at our sumptuous Valentine's Day lunch surpassed previous event attendance and the participation continued to grow throughout the year, with over 100 members and their guests attending the 50-year anniversary 114/5 outing to Magaliesburg and more than 120 enjoying the Bertha Benz 130-year commemorative lunch. This is a testament to the hard work which the committee put into organising events and we are very pleased with our members' enthusiastic participation

and enjoyment of the Club.

Angela's Picnic is another perennial favourite event and despite a fairly muted turn-out by most other clubs due to the gloomy weather, the Mercedes-Benz Club stand once again stood out head-and-shoulders above the rest. Thank you, Jorge Tenente, for providing refreshments for the members and Leon Wannenburg for setting it all up.

Sadly, we came to the end of an era with the annual Air-Force Day event no longer being held at Zwartkops Air Force Base. Instead, Hilton Wolff organised for it to be hosted at the Brakpan-Benoni Air Field and this gave the event a whole new beginning. Members enjoyed the day as much as ever and were treated to flights in various aircraft during a wonderful time of socialising with the very enthusiastic Aero Club members.

With the return of Midmas in 2017, expectations were high and Suzette Bouwer really rose to the occasion. A number of members from the Northern

Region and KZN were joined by our Club President and First Lady for a weekend of fantastic fun at Champagne Valley in the Drakensburg. From the opening "sports" evening dinner to the closing fines ceremony (with PC Bouwer managing to fine every member attending the event!), the weekend was filled with camaraderie and much laughter.

The Bertha Benz Commemorative run was another highlight. Many of the members embraced the spirit of the event and the ladies looked spectacular in their 1880's attire. A leisurely convoy to Parys was followed by a fitting and very special picnic-style lunch on the banks of the Vaal River – in much more style than Frau Benz would have had to picnic beside the road on her epic journey.

The 2018 National Concours was, simply put; spectacular. The number of participants and the quality of the cars entered was better than it has been in many years and the ladies enjoyed an outing to the Brooklyn Theatre

while the judging was meticulously carried out. We were again fortunate that Hein Lorentz and the team at McCarthy Mercedes-Benz Lifestyle Centre Menlyn generously opened their magnificent facility to us and the weekend truly was an occasion to make us proud and grateful members of the Mercedes-Benz Club of South Africa. Congratulations to our Concours d'Honneur winner, Gregory Naudé. We look forward to seeing you and your magnificent 560 SEC back to defend the title in 2019!

Our further regular events – the Jacaranda Run, Two-Door Day and Continental Car Day at the Piston Ring Club – were also well-attended and much-enjoyed and brought us to a fitting close to the year with a magnificent gala dinner. Thank you, Anna-Lee Dos Santos, Jan-Willem Wielsma and André Esterhuizen for organising a very elegant evening and Anna-Lee for your generous sponsorship of gifts for all attending members.



The Northern Region committee has worked extremely hard throughout 2018 but the high level of engagement among members, fantastic support of events and obvious enjoyment of Club activities makes it all worthwhile. My sincere thanks go to Anna-Lee Dos Santos, Suzette Bouwer, Jan-Willem Wielsma, Carlos Cardoso, André Esterhuizen, Marcell Mostert, PJ Ryan and Chris Carlisle-Kitz for their contributions throughout the year.

I would like to thank the committee of 2019 for their willingness to take the region to even greater heights and I am grateful to those who bring continuity to the management of the region: Marcell, Carlos, Anna-Lee (as Vice-Chairman), and Chris. Under the experienced leadership of Steve Rademeyer, the founding President of our Club, as Chairman of the region, I would like to wish the new committee well for 2019. Thank you, Shynelle and Morné Greeff, Jeanette St James, Koos du Toit (Secretary) and Hercu van der Walt – I'm have no doubt you will bring fresh ideas and a renewed enthusiasm to the region. We look forward to sharing another fun-filled year with our Mercedes-Benz family.

■

**SVEN KRASSNOKUTSKI**

*Chairman Northern Region*



---

*Regional Review*

---

*Western*



# Western Cape Region

As the old year was speeding to a close, it is good to sit back and reflect on the happenings of the old year.

At the Western Cape Region we had an exciting and busy year, especially with our AGM being held in Cape Town (and the expected Day Zero with no water was expected right in the middle of the AGM!)

A variety of interesting club runs had been organised in 2018. The first one in January was a breakfast run to Mont Marie Restaurant in Stellenbosch, followed by a weekend at the famous Angora Stud Farm in Bonnievale in February. In March we visited Cape Point Ostrich Farm situated on a beautiful part of the Cape Peninsula and in May we had a breakfast run to the Lourensford Wine Estate in Somerset West. A German lunch in Somerset West was our treat for June, and a Sunday lunch at Idiom Restaurant situated in Sir Lowry's Pass with its breathtaking views in July. In August we went on a historical Bertha Benz Run. We met at Mercedes-Benz Paarl and set off for lunch at Ke-Monate Restaurant in Durbanville. In September we had a sleepover in McGregor, where we almost took over the town. Later that month we went for a scenic drive to the Benguela

Cove Restaurant in Hermanus and in October we took a trip down memory lane at the Toeka Stoor near Paarl before sitting down to a traditional Sunday lunch. In November we had fun at the Killarney Race Track with lunch at Durbanville Hills Restaurant. Our year-end function and annual concours took place at Okkie Potgieter's beautiful estate, Land and Zeezicht.

The Western Cape Region had the opportunity to participate in three car shows: the Timour Hall Classic Car & Bike Show, the Killarney Car Show and the South African Historic Grand Prix Garden Party at Val De Vie Estate.

Highlights of our monthly club meetings include a meeting hosted by Sana-Ullah Bray at the Sanlam Auditorium, a meeting at Francois Olivier's museum in Paarl and our last meeting of the year at Graham van Heerden's Mercseum in Durbanville.

But the biggest event on our calendar was of course the AGM. It took months of organising and a lot of hard work by the members of our club committee, but it was worth the effort. Everyone enjoyed it thoroughly

and lots of great memories were made. Thanks to our dearly devoted attending club members, we were able to donate R41 700 to the Ruyterwacht Senior Centre, the charity organisation benefiting from the auction held at the gala dinner.

A new club committee was elected at our last meeting. Congratulations to Zillen Venter, the new chairman, Brendan Moran, vice-chairman and JP van der Poel, regional secretary. Good luck for 2019!

To the outgoing committee members, JB Wiese and Ederik Kritzinger, thank you for your hard work! And to our club members who supported us during the last 6 years, thank you for organising club runs, submitting Benz Lens articles and supporting the monthly club meetings. Without you there would not have been a Mercedes-Benz Western Cape Region!

Last but not least, a big thank you to the national committee, especially to Waldo for being a great and supportive president! ■

**Kurt Stassen** - *Chairman*



*Annual 2018*





CBS 25668



---

*Regional Review*

---

*Southern*



INGEWILD 1842  
HERBOUW 1906

Buick

# Southern Cape Region



Annual 2018

When I joined the club approximately 10 years ago, we had (if memory serves me right) 35 members in this region. Over the years we had a steady increase and by the end of 2018 membership in this region had grown to more than 70.

A new year in this region started with a flurry of activities.

Just to get the year started, we had a breakfast run to the nearby Oubaai Resort.

Then the pace really picked up.

Our first major event was attending the Dias festival held in Mossel Bay. This event takes place during the first weekend in February and includes a parade through the streets of Mossel Bay with the Mercedes-Benz Club leading the procession.

The next weekend it was time for the George Old Car Show, where we were a major role - player in the exhibition. We once again counted an excess of 100 entries featured under our club's banner. We wish to express our appreciation to the members who travelled all the way to George to participate.

Our main feature this year was celebrating 50 years of the w114/5 series. Also known as /8 or "strich 8". We managed to exhibit 21 of these

models, thanks to members travelling from far and wide during one of the hottest months of the year, mostly without the comfort of airconditioning.

Then there was the President's braai on the Saturday evening of the show weekend. We had approximately 190 guests attending and as always, a well planned function was enjoyed.

We then participated in the Knysna Motor Show towards the end of April. Unfortunately this event clashed with the AGM during 2018 and consequently we could not participate in our usual numbers. We will always recommend members in the Knysna area to attend, this show is held. Although smaller in numbers than the George Old Car Show, it is a well planned event and well worth your time. Worthy classic cars will be on display.

The other function for which our region is well known is our annual Snoekbraai, it is always held on the first Sunday of September. Inclement

weather during 2018 influenced the number of attendees. We still had an excellent day despite the weather and we as a region is indebted to Kobus Harris and his team for their time and effort. We also hold the opinion that all members of the club should attend this event at least once to experience Southern Cape hospitality at its best.

Other monthly activities includes outrides, technical or garage days where there is usually an expert on some subject of interest, a visit to our local dealer and the usual "bring en braai", before the year ends.

Our year end function, traditionally a spitbraai, is held in the garden of Waldo and Rene Scribante, and



includes our local concours.

I'd like to give a special word of thanks to our members for their support of our events and their help. Without participating members, regions cannot function.

The elected regional committee for 2019 are:

- Chairman: Johan Sloet
- Secretary: Aldo van Zyl
- Additional members: Pieter Lourens and Chris Kuhn. ■





---

*Regional Review*

---

*Eastern*



# Eastern Cape Region

---



*Annual 2018*

The Eastern Cape Membership has remained steady, notwithstanding the fact that a number of members have relocated to other regions.

Sadly two fellow club members, Gavin le Roux and Sampie van Heerden passed away in the Year. Our sincere condolences to the respective families.

2018 was once again a busy year in which the EC region supported a number of National Events as well as having organised a number of local runs and activities. This in addition to our weekly informal meets.

The first run of the year was an enjoyable road trip to the George Old Car Show, with no less than 19 Cars and 39 members from the Eastern Cape. This is always a special event which was very well supported. The President's Braai at Waldo's residence is always a highlight, which once again was most enjoyable.

In March, we went on a lunch run to the Arena Resort outside East London, where we also welcomed a few new club members.

A few EC members attended the AGM in Cape Town in April, taking on some scenic routes in their classics along the way there and back.

In May we visited Pieter Moolman to see his extensive collection of model

cars, badges and motoring memorabilia which he has built-up over the years – this was very interesting.

Also in May, Ronnies Motors invited us to the 'X' Class launch, where we had the opportunity to evaluate & drive the new bakkies.

June was "Thomas River" time again and we really had a wonderful experience. As usual everything was well catered for and we had lots of great food & drink, thanks to Jeff & Ann Sansom. We went climbing to see some old bushman paintings & rock art, drove motor bikes and just had some quality time with everyone in the village.

A number of us drove to Port Elizabeth in July for a wonderful week-end with the PE guys.

The first evening Niki Georgiou had a number of Mercedes-Benz Classic cars on display at the EPVCC Club House, where we joined the local classic car fraternity for an enjoyable bring 'n braai.

The following day we visited the VW Factory Museum in Uitenhage and Jan Enslin's car collection as well as the Toy Museum in PE. Later that

evening we had a very nice braai hosted by Niki Georgiou and his parents at their lovely home. We were pleased to have Waldo & Rene join us for the week-end's activities as well.

On the return trip to East London, we visited Johan Nel in Grahamstown, to see his interesting collection of historical pumps, badges and general memorabilia.

We took a brief look at the large selection of Makita Tools at Mike Webber's Tool and accessory shop followed by a nice lunch at the Rat & Parrot before returning to East London.

In August, we held the Bertha Benz Run 130 Year Celebration.

This event, initiated by Dirk Van der Westhuizen, was to commemorate the very first trip Bertha Benz undertook in an Automobile in 1888.

With fantastic support from MBSA, Jeff Sansom of the Thomas River Historical Village, and of course the enthusiastic local EC Cub Members, this was a hugely successful event.

Much effort was made with everyone dressing up in period garb, which made it very special.

After a brief Chairman's Welcome in the Press Room of MBSA's Factory Visitor Centre, Debbie Knight, (Our very own Bertha Benz for the day), gave an introduction to Bertha Benz and her brave adventure, undertaking a trip of about 106km from Mannheim to Pforzheim in her husband Karl Benz's three wheeler invention.

Having had the opportunity to personally follow the same route Bertha Benz drove all those years ago, Debbie was fully versed in giving a detailed overview of the Historic Trip.

We then listened to a pre-recorded President's message from Waldo Scribante.

With the benefit of having MBSA's 1886 Benz Three Wheeler replica in the Plant's Visitor Centre, Norman Hickel gave a physical overview of the three-wheeler, which is similar to the one Bertha Benz drove on her 106km Maiden Automobile voyage in 1888.

In front of the Visitor Centre, Debbie, as 'Bertha Benz' drove the three-wheeler a short distance in the car park with her two 'sons' Eugen & Richard next to her, to show its capabilities.

A number of our member's classic cars were lined up, ready to follow a pre-determined route to the Thomas River Historical Village for a special lunch, hosted by Jeff & Ann Sansom. MBSA's Benz Three Wheeler was transported to Thomas River in an enclosed van, where Debbie Knight drove the Three Wheeler a short distance, creating quite a stir.

Justin Erasmus took some special drone footage of the day's activities. A special grille badge, a commemorative coin and lovely pieces of memorabilia were available as mementos of this wonderful occasion, which was thoroughly enjoyed by everyone.

The National Concours was held at the Mercedes-Benz Lifestyle Centre in Menlyn in Pretoria.

This event, organised by the Northern Region and hosted Hein Lorentz of the Dealership, was once again a tremendous success, showcasing some of the best cars in the country.

We also bade farewell to Hein Lorentz, who retired from the dealership after many years at the helm. Hein has hosted this event at the dealership for many years with absolute passion and outstanding hospitality.

While he will be sorely missed, he will continue supporting this event going forward in an advisory capacity jointly with the new Dealership management and as a passionate club member. The annual Wizard on Wheels Show held at the end of

September in East London, was once again well supported with 47 cars on display, 8 of which Rudi le Roux brought on show. Waldo joined us at the Show this year as well as Olga & Francois van der Westhuizen who did very well with Club Regalia sales.

In October a few of us drove out to the Komga Agricultural Show for the day to support the local farming community there. Although this is a very small show, we always enjoy their great hospitality. Also in October, we visited Peter Bruton in East London, to see his incredible collection of Coca Cola promotional items and memorabilia. He has one of the biggest collections in the country.

EC Club members supported the Jolly Old Fellows Run held in October. This is organised by the Border Vintage Car Club and hosted by the Osner Group. The old folks were taken on a classic car ride from their respective homes to the Osner Hotel on the Beach front for an afternoon tea with some entertainment. This is always a big highlight for the elderly.

The Historic Grand Prix Racing Weekend was held in East London on the 24th & 25th November. It was an awesome event with 1930's GP racing cars having been shipped from all over the world to race on the same East London GP Circuit again after 80 years – a truly memorable, once in a lifetime experience. Colin Meyer had the privilege & honour to drive the same 1938 Riley his granddad Buller Meyer raced in 1938, a very special

opportunity. This year's Amatola Charity Run from East London to Kei Road for lunch was held on the 18th November and as always this was very well supported by all local clubs and the general public with more than entries.

It has been 60 years since the first locally produced Mercedes-Benz rolled off the assembly line at the Car Distributors Assembly Plant or CDA as it was known then in East London in 1958.

In November, passionate local Eastern Cape Mercedes-Benz Club members Norman Hickel and Pieter Moolman in conjunction with MBSA, undertook an epic journey from East London to John Williams Motors in Bloemfontein, in my Ponton 190.

This was to re-enact the delivery of the first Mercedes produced in East London – (a Ponton 190).

John Williams Motors received the first locally produced Mercedes way back then and today still holds the Mercedes-Benz franchise in Bloemfontein.

Also part of the trip was an MBSA owned Mercedes-Benz W205 C63S driven by Journalist Ferdie de Vos, and which was also built in the same factory exactly 60 years later.

The camera crew followed in a Mercedes V250d.

From East London, they took the original old R346 route via King Williamstown up through Stutterheim and on to Aliwal North where they stayed overnight.

The following day the journey continued into the hot Free State via the N6 on the way to Bloemfontein.

After a minor issue with burnt points, the re-enactment of the handover was done at the Mercedes Benz Dealership.

After an overnight stay, they had a trouble free return trip the next day.

Having driven almost 1200km in all, they were welcomed back in East London by fellow club members with great fanfare, and champagne in the factory parking lot, where they had left two days earlier.

Our Year-end function, held in December was a drive out to the Olivewood Private Estate in the East Coast Resorts area for a lovely lunch.

It was well supported and thoroughly enjoyed by everyone.

A number of EC club members must be complimented for undertaking extensive restorations on their cars with support from fellow club members. It is great to see the passion for the brand.

We have great camaraderie in the EC Region and I want to thank everyone for their commitment to the Club.

At our Regional AGM held in November, the existing Committee was re-elected for another term and we look forward to an exciting year ahead, sharing the passion for the Star. ■

**ERALD HOHLS**  
*Chairman Eastern Cape*



---

*Regional Review*

---

*Central*

---



# Central Region

---

The Central region kick-started the year in true Free State style when Annalie and Jaco Kachelhoffer's braai took place, with their famous punch. We had a splash of eats and laughs as only our region can have.

In the month of February we made a trip to the George show. It was the year of the W114/W115 to commemorate its launch in 1968. In March we had a club run to the Maselspoort Resort just outside Bloemfontein and we had a very nice braai.

Dying April we attended the AGM in Cape Town. I would like to congratulate Kurt Stassen and his team for the organising of that prestigious event! We saw the finest collections of cars there, and the picturesque landscapes were amazing in every sense of the word. In June we had our annual Splash supper that was well attended.

In July we visited Kimberley and our host Deon Nel spoiled us at the world famous Kimberley club as he took over from Koot and Saartjie du Toit. We wish our previous hosts Koot and Saartjie all the best on their retirement in George. The annual CITP

Bloemfontein was well attended and Mercedes were once again the biggest exhibition on show. August held the Bertha Benz run and Annalie planned the trip with great enthusiasm. During September we attended the Concours at the Mercedes-Benz Menlyn Lifestyle Centre. Thank you Sven for a well-planned event! We also had the great privilege to visit Meyburgh and Riekie Erasmus in Molteno and were treated to true farmstyle hospitality. Last but not least we had our year end function at the Copper and Coal.

At our AGM the following Central Region committee members were elected:

Theo Potgieter as Chairman, Fanie du Preez as vice chairman, Anita du Preez as secretary. Van Zyl van Pletzen, Betsie van Pletzen, Annalie and Jaco Kachelhoffer were elected as AGM planning members. The 2019 AGM will be hosted by the Central Region at the Famous Golden Gate hotel in

Clarens and we look forward to see everyone attending. Please support us for the gathering of the year! ■

**THEO POTGIETER**  
*Chairman Central Region*



*Annual 2018*





FTR 663 FS

TP 216940

PONTON FS

ETH 571 FS





---

## *Regional Review*

---

*KwaZulu*

---



# KwaZulu-Natal Region

---



*Annual 2018*

January 2018 saw the KZN team start the year off with their annual tradition of the Chairman's Braai where guests were treated at a spectacular 5-star venue courtesy of Vinesh Ramdass at his penthouse apartment at the sails on the point of the Waterfront in Durban.

The dress code for the day was all white and we were spoilt by the company of good club friends. We had Antony Cousens Photography as he captured special moments throughout the day. The annual Chairman's Braai is an event that KZN members look forward to every year and was started by the founder of the region Christopher Carlisle-Kitz and had been carried through by myself, the current chairman.

The month of March saw members being invited to the launch of Mercedes-Benz's most anticipated vehicle of 2018: The X class at Mercedes-Benz Durban brand centre. The marketing manager Louise Morton left guests and customers feeling very spoilt with live radio coverage from East Coast Radio, entertainment for the ladies and kids and food to keep you refreshed for the entire time. The X class is truly an amazing vehicle, everyone was completely blown away by it.

On the very same day, the evening

had our members invited to the Bokeh South African Fashion Film Festival press launch held for the very first time in Durban, of which Mercedes-Benz South Africa is a major sponsor. Held at the very trendy Station Drive precinct where only the "cream of the crop" of Durban's fashion, film and art industry were invited, the KZN leg of the Mercedes-Benz Club were approached to showcase some of our classic and vintage style vehicles upfront as guests arrived. An amazing evening followed, planned and executed in style by Adrian Lazarus and his team led by Susana Kennedy.

May was our "cherry on the top" for the year, with Cars in the Park Pietermaritzburg that sees members from around the country arrive at Ashburton to showcase their three pointed stars at our Mercedes-Benz stand in KZN's largest car show. Members were spoilt with the best stand at the show where they were wined and dined in comfort throughout the day

and 2018 was no different.

July had us road tripping down to the quaint little town of Vryheid for the annual Vryheid car show where our members are always welcomed and treated as part of the Vryheid family. It always is a good quality car show where some of the most interesting vehicles in KZN are showcased. The day was spent enjoying the company of likeminded car enthusiasts, great local food and of course, the cars.

Bertha Benz in KZN began early on Sunday morning with breakfast at Mercedes-Benz Durban brand centre in Umhlanga with a scenic drive along KZN's North Coast and eventually arriving at the inaugural Concours d' Elegance Durban, the beautiful Durban Country Club. I'd like to give a very big thank you to Louise Morton from Mercedes-Benz Umhlanga for all her assistance in planning and executing this event as well as for the bags of goodies for all the ladies and stunning prizes. Also a very big thank

you must go to Christopher Carlisle-Kitz and Anna-Lee Dos Santos who graced us with their presence for this event down here in KZN. It definitely was a highlight on the 2018 calendar of which these special moments were captured throughout the day by Keshlan Nadesan of Lens 3 photography.

In October, KZN member John Aritho arranged a wonderful outing for members starting off at the classic and charming old town Italy for coffee and a brekkie after which members headed out in convoy to the glorious beach town of Ballito for lunch at the stunning Thava on the beach, to indulge in some hot Durban curry. Some gorgeous classics came out to play and we had everyone on the KZN roads rubber-necking to get a good view of our 3 pointed stars. Before lunch, a little quiz on some Mercedes-Benz trivia got everyone mind-boggled and laughing so hard. At the end of it, the grand prize went to Indy while

everyone else received gifts from Mercedes-Benz Umhlanga. That was the most fun lunch run, organised by John.

November means the end of year function and regional AGM. In KZN, we love dining with a view and Salt

Rock Hotel provided us with just the right location for ending off the year. A special treat was having our president Waldo Scribante and his gorgeous wife Rene with us on the day to celebrate Rene's birthday. With the formalities and the KZN AGM

out of the way, members settled in for an entire afternoon of lunching and tea with fellow members, friends and family. ■

**Avish Maharaj**

*Chairman KwaZulu-Natal*







NUT 40

# National Concours 2018 – Indrukke omtrent 'n spesiale dag

---

Eerste indrukke is blywend. Dit is hoe die mooi Afrikaanse gesegde gaan.

So daag ek taamlik vroeg op 'n mooi Pretoria-lenteoggend op by die Mercedes Benz Lifestyle Centre in Menlyn. Die veranderinge aan die geboue, die bykomende geboue en meerendeels die skaal waarop als gedoen is, is tekenend van die waarde en waardigheid wat die naam Mercedes-Benz definieer. Dit is pragtig en imponerend!

In die geallokeerde parkeerarea staan daar reeds pragtige nuwe en lieflike klassieke motors geparkeer. Ek kon onmiddelik sien dat die dag spesiaal gaan wees. Nooit sou ek kon dink dat dit merkwaardig sou uitdraai nie.

So 'n dag begin altyd eerste met 'n koppie koffie en die groet van ou bekendes in die klub. Ek betree die nuwe “onthaal-area” en word verras deur die lieflike oop spasie wat keurig en modern, maar in onmiskenbare Mercedes-Benz styl daar gestel is.

Daar is vroeg reeds heerlijk gekuier en bespiegel omtrent die omvang van

inskrywings en natuurlik omtrent die kwaliteit van inskrywings. Concours is gewoon die hoogtepunt van die skoukalender van die jaar. Die verwagtinge was hoog.

Die groot rondloop begin. Eerste word gekyk na wat daar op die vloer staan in terme van nuwe motors. Dit opsigself is asemberewend. Mercedes-Benz het eenmaal nou maar net die ontwerpers wat waar dit by stilering kom, die wereld van fantasie betree! Het ek maar die rykdom van 'n oliemagnaat gehad, dan sou ek nie kon kies waarmee om te ry nie. Ek is gewoon skepties omtrent al wat nuut en modern is (dit is nou maar die aard van die ou-siel waarmee ek gebore is), maar ek moet toegee daar is meriete in sommige moderne ontwerpe en die daarmee gepaardgaande funksionaliteit. Miskien laat die hede tog toe vir 'n oomblik van rustigheid temidde van die gejaag van die tyd- 'n ontspanne rit in die gemak van moderne-tegnologie se wieg, met



die opsie om met die plattrap van 'n pedaal die historiese hede van spoed en toekoms in te snel met 'n opgewondenheid wat ou-bloed weer laat borrel met die energie wat net jeug kan bied!

Voordat die poëtiese die oorhand bo die redelikheid kry moet ek aanbeweeg deur die merkwaardig nuut-gestileerde gebou na waar die hoof-aksie van die dag plaasvind. Na die bekende. Na die kloppende hartkamers van die verlede - die prag van vervloë dae gemanifesteer in die tydlose ontwerpe van geliefde klassieke motors!

Elkeen het sy eie herinneringe aan die motor, of motors, wat 'n Pa of Ma, 'n Oupa of Ouma, Oom of Tante gery het in die tyd waarin hy of sy grootgeword het. Daardie herinneringe word toegedraai in die watte van tyd wat elke nou en dan hetsy op 'n dag soos nou, of in die gewone gang van die bestaan skielik met groot nostalgie oopgemaak word en sag gekoester word. Kleure, reuke, vorme- als dinge wat mooi gedagtes uit vergange dae ontsluit.

Daar staan hulle! Wat 'n pragtige versameling van oud, ouer, jonger en jonk! Met die eerste vlug van die oog oor die vloer kan ek sien dat die inskrywings vir hierdie Concours besonders is. Die verskillende modelle staan netjies ingepak ry na ry. W108's, 'n C126 (besonders in alle opsigte), 'n manjefieke w189 300d, Gary Dodds se pragtige W105 219 Ponton ('n droomkar vir my). Sowaar, daar staan 'n Ponton-bakkie in uitstaande

toestand! Werklik? Kan daar soveel uitsonderlike klassieke Mercedes Benze in een lokaal bymekaar wees? Kyk net- Stephen Kaalsen het sy 1969 W108 280S gebring, en daar is geen fout te vind op daardie kar nie! Hoe ek ookal probeer, fout kan net nie gevind word nie! Die frustrasie is slegs dit: dit behoort nie aan my nie! Daar staan hy- 'n W201 190E 2.5 Cosworth! Die lys gaan aan en aan.

Daar is so werklikwaar motors uit die 1920's en 1930's! Roley Nöffke se 1928 260 'Stuttgart' staan daar in 'n waad van prag getooi! Die motor is besonders in alle opsigte, en ek kuier vir gans te lank om meer uit te vind omtrent die restorasie van die voertuig. Die detail wat daarin gegaan het is verstommend. Items is na Australië gestuur om perfek gereproduseer te word en sekere komponente is op draaitafels gedraai deur meester-metaalwerkers. Die omvang van die restorasie is verstommend. Die uitkoms daarvan verbysterend!

Jorge Tenente se 1937 w136 170V is in ongelooflike toestand, en die blokkie-patroonnoortreksels op die sitplekke neem mens terug na vooroorlogse Duitsland. In my verbeelding is 'n statige Duitse dokter oppad na sy praktyk, en kinders word gou by die skool afgelaai. Die dokter se hoed verhoed rookwalms om reg op te trek, en dit walm met 'n boog verby die hoedrand, soos die mis in slierte van Tafelberg sou afrol. Die statige 170V rol voort deur Berlynse strate, wyl voetganger-oë dit bewonder.

Die stadige pas van pragstuk-voertuig tot pragstuk-voertuig neem my verder na Neil Botes se ligblou W121 190SL uit 1959. Wat 'n pragstuk! 'n Wafferse Judy Garland ry met 'n wye-rand hoed met sonneblom op deur Los Angeles se strate oppad na opname-ateljees.

Die versameling van klassieke motors was werklikwaar verstommend gewees. Die detail waarna omgesien is deur die eienaars, was inspirerend. Ek glo dat die beoordeelaars 'n moeilike taak gehad het om die winners in die kategorieë te bepaal en daar was moontlik 'n fraksie van puntverskil tussen die winner en die ander plekke in elke kategorie.

Geluk aan Gregory Naude wat die Prix d'Honneur gewen het met sy uitstaande 1991 C126 560SEC. Dit is voorwaar 'n besondere mooi kar, in uitstaande toestand. Hein Lorentz en sy span het, soos gewoonlik, die dag besonders gemaak in terme van die noukeurige voorbereiding wat in die venue ingegaan het, en die wonderlike ete wat voorgesit is. Daar was geen fout te vinde met enigiets nie!

2018 se Concourse sal onthou word as die beste nóg, met 'n versameling voertuie wat in ongelooflike detail voorberei is deur hul eienaars. Dit is voertuie om op trots te wees.

Dit is werklik 'n voorreg om aan hierdie klub te behoort.

Doen so voort, mede-klublede!

Die verwagting vir 2019 is groot! ■

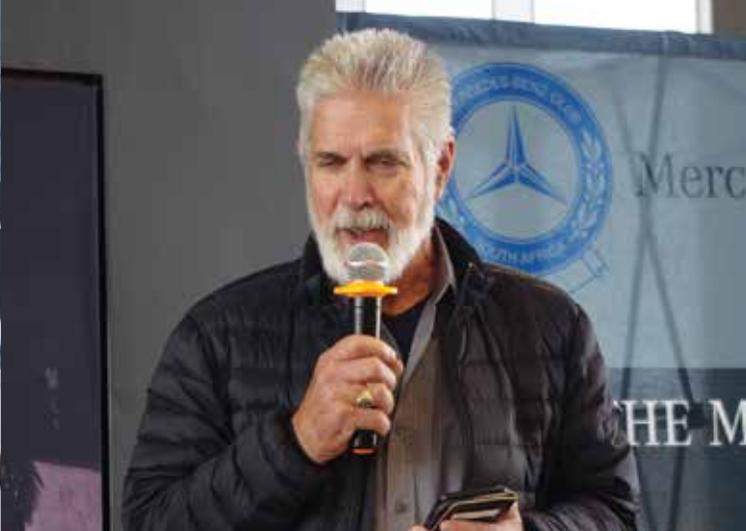
**Leon Fourie**







COMPETITION	AWARD	PLACE	NAME OF MEMBER	SERIES	YEAR	MODEL
<b>Prix d'Honneur</b>	Carl Benz Trophy Prix d'Honneur Sponsored by Mercedes-Benz South Africa	1st Place	Gregory Naudé	C126	1991	560SEC
		2nd Place	Roley Nöffke	W11	1928	260 "Stuttgart"
<b>Grand Prix d'Etat</b>	Gottlieb Daimler Trophy Grand Prix d'Etat Sponsored by Hein Lorentz	1st Place	Gregory Naudé	C126	1991	560SEC
		2nd Place	Pieter Booysen	R129	2000	SL500
		3rd Place	Waldo Scribante	W201	1993	190E 2.3 Sportline
<b>Prix d'Etat – Pre-War</b>	Wilhelm Maybach Trophy Prix d'Etat – Pre-War Sponsored by Waldo Scribante					
<b>Prix d'Etat – Oldtimer</b>	Ferdinand Porsche Trophy Prix d'Etat – Oldtimer Sponsored by Steve Rademeyer	Stephen Kaalsen	W108	1969	280S	
<b>Concours d'Etat Oldtimer Class 300</b>	Concours d'Etat Oldtimer Class 300 Sponsored by Louis Coetzer	1st Place	Roley Nöffke	W189	1958	300d
<b>Concours d'Etat Oldtimer Class Ponton</b>	Concours d'Etat Oldtimer Class Ponton Sponsored by Gary Dodds	1st Place	Warren Geyser	W120	1956	180D Bakkie
		2nd Place	Gary Dodds	W105	1958	219
		3rd Place	Zack Marques	W120	1956	180
<b>Concours d'Etat Oldtimer Class Fintail</b>	Concours d'Etat Oldtimer Class Fintail Sponsored by Chris Carlisle-Kitz					
<b>Concours d'Etat Oldtimer Class W108 / W109</b>	Concours d'Etat Oldtimer Class W108 / W109 Sponsored by Koos du Toit	1st Place	Stephen Kaalsen	W108	1969	280S
		2nd Place	Gary Bowes	W108	1972	280S
<b>Concours d'Etat Oldtimer Class /8</b>	Concours d'Etat Oldtimer Class /8 Sponsored by Leon Fourie					
<b>Concours d'Etat Oldtimer Class Grosser</b>	Concours d'Etat Oldtimer Class Grosser Sponsored by Des Lemmon-Warde					
<b>Concours d'Etat Oldtimer Class 300SL</b>	Concours d'Etat Oldtimer Class 300SL Sponsored by Clive Winterstein					





COMPETITION	AWARD	PLACE	NAME OF MEMBER	SERIES	YEAR	MODEL
<b>Concours d'Etat Oldtimer Class 190SL</b>	Concours d'Etat Oldtimer Class 190SL Sponsored by Vinesh Ramdass	1st Place	Neil Botes	W121	1959	190SL
<b>Concours d'Etat Oldtimer Class 190SL Sponsored by Vinesh Ramdass</b>	Concours d'Etat Oldtimer Class Pagoda Sponsored by Yousuf Mahomed					
<b>Prix d'Etat - Youngtimer</b>	Paul Bracq Trophy Prix d'Etat – Youngtimer Sponsored by Ettienne Geel		Gregory Naudé	C126	1991	560SEC
<b>Concours d'Etat Youngtimer Class W123</b>						
<b>Concours d'Etat Youngtimer Class W123</b>	Sponsored in memory of Tielman Roos Roux					
<b>Concours d'Etat Youngtimer Class W116</b>	Concours d'Etat Youngtimer Class W116 Sponsored by Jan-Willem Wielsma					
<b>Concours d'Etat Youngtimer Class W201</b>	Concours d'Etat Youngtimer Class W201 Sponsored by Waldo Scribante Concours d'Etat Youngtimer	1st Place	Waldo Scribante	W201	1993	190E 2.3 Sportline
		2nd Place	Warren Watters	W201	1989	190E 2.5 Cosworth
		3rd Place	Ettienne Geel	W201	1993	190E 2.0
<b>Concours d'Etat Youngtimer Class W124</b>	Concours d'Etat Youngtimer Class W124 Sponsored by Johan Kemp	1st Place	Daleen van De-venter	W124	1989	230E
<b>Concours d'Etat Youngtimer Class W126</b>	Concours d'Etat Youngtimer Class W126 Sponsored by Johan Kemp	1st Place	Gregory Naudé	C126	1991	560SEC
		2nd Place	Johann van der Walt	W126	1982	280SE
<b>Concours d'Etat Youngtimer Class W140</b>						
<b>Concours d'Etat Youngtimer Class R/ C107</b>	Concours d'Etat Youngtimer Class R/ C107 Sponsored by Paul van Wyk	1st Place	Johann van Heerden	C107	1979	450SL

COMPETITION	AWARD	PLACE	NAME OF MEMBER	SERIES	YEAR	MODEL
Concours d'Etat Youngtimer Class R129	Concours d'Etat Youngtimer Class R129 Sponsored by Pieter Booyesen	1st Place	Pieter Booyesen	R129	2000	SL500
		2nd Place	Warren Watters	R129	1996	SL60 AMG
		3rd Place	Dane Cresswell	R129	1994	SL500
Concours d'Etat Youngtimer Class Open	Concours d'Etat Youngtimer Class Open Sponsored by Warren Geyser					
Prix d'Etat – Newtimer	Bruno Sacco Trophy Prix d'Etat – Newtimer Sponsored by Dirk van der Westhuizen	1st Place	Chris Cloete	R171	2012	SLK200
		2nd Place	Warren Watters	C209	2008	CLK63 Black Series
Prix d'Elegance	Emil Jellinek Trophy Prix d'Elegance Sponsored by Sven Krassnokutski		Sven Krassnokutski	W220	2003	S55 AMG
Concours d'Elegance Class Pre-War	Concours d'Elegance Class Pre-War Sponsored by Kurt Stassen Concours		Jorge Tememete	W136	1937	170V
Concours d'Elegance Class Oldtimer	Concours d'Elegance Class Oldtimer Sponsored by Northern Region	1st Place	Dawie de Beer	W121	1962	190SL
		2nd Place	Richard Whalley	W113	1971	280SL
		3rd Place	Neels Klok	W105	1957	219
Concours d'Elegance Class Youngtimer	Concours d'Elegance Class Youngtimer Sponsored by Southern Cape Region	1st Place	Sven Krassnokutski	W220	2003	S55 AMG
		2nd Place	Doeke Tromp	W126	1986	380SE
		3rd Place	Hilton Wolff	C126	1984	380SEC
Concours d'Elegance Class Newtimer	Concours d'Elegance Class Newtimer	1st Place	Neil Kandasamy	W211	2004	E55 AMG
Ladies' Choice	Mercedes Jellinek Trophy Ladies' Choice Sponsored by Anna-Lee Dos Santos		Clive Winterstein	W128	1960	220SE
President's Choice	Bertha Benz Trophy President's Choice Sponsored by René Scribante		Warren Geyser	W120	1956	180D Bakkie

# AGM 2018 weekend in Cape Town – a summary of memories

---

A deep enjoyment settles in one's soul when you once again experience memories of friends from all over the country. Yes, I am talking about the AGM and National Gathering of 2018, which started with the meetings and conversations at the registration tables where everything was going without a hitch.

**P**rotea Hotel Durbanville was pulling their weight and guests arrived from near and far and were treated to drinks and snacks. We hung around and picked up on old conversations. Everyone was excited about the weekend that lay ahead. The first evening we went to Mercedes-Benz Century City for the opening event. Just before that some of us set off to see Hannes Pienaar's motor collection – an amazing selection of Mercedes-Benz's, Alfa's and Ferrari's.

That evening: As we entered the parking area at Mercedes-Benz Century City, I suddenly experienced that eerie feeling of visiting the home of a long lost genetic family member. Wine started to flow, canapés appeared from the kitchen ... and all was well. Waldo and René Scribante once again spoil the committee members with gifts and praises. We are humbled. The evening turned out to be a hit with everyone and it was late when we started headed home.

The next day; Sunday morning: Perfect weather and we were all off to D'Aria Wine Estate for individual photos in a beautiful setting with a typical Cape theme of wine barrels. After the photo session we

gathered at the hotel waiting upon the arrival of our luxury buses. AGM bottled water was shared out and the drive commenced along the N1 all the way to the city centre.

We were then headed for Kloofnek Road past the cable car and descended to the picturesque Camps Bay. Our route took us past the Twelve Apostles Hotel, over Suikerbossie Pass and right through the little town of Hout Bay. By that time the mood in the buses had really picked up; photos, selfies and singing abound with everyone sharing on the AGM Whatsapp group. Then we entered the very scenic Chapman's Peak Drive, one of the top 10 most beautiful drives in the world. Even the local guys enjoyed it as they then had the opportunity to look around and soak up that magnificent drive without having to concentrate on the 127 curve bends! The route took us through Kommetjie, past Slanghoek Light House Tower, through the beautiful Misty Cliffs and Scarborough and past Cape Point Nature Reserve enroute to Simon's Town and the Black Marlin Restaurant – a historical building with a garden terrace and

incredible views showing the true beauty of the Cape. After a leisurely lunch of seafood and wine we headed straight back to our hotel. Sunday afternoon: A short drive took us to Graham van Heerden's Mercseum with his magnificent collection of cars and memorabilia. Lots of photos and good conversations followed and no one was in a hurry to leave ...

Sunday evening: Dinner was a casual pizza evening hosted by the Protea Hotel Durbanville where we shared the highlights of a very enjoyable day. Two sketch artists entertained us with comic caricature sketches of all the guests resulting in a good laugh and lots of good-natured bantering. The evening ended on a high note as we all retired for a good night's rest.

Monday morning: Great excitement was in the air, as that night was gala night! The highlight of our AGM! After breakfast we departed in convoy on a leisurely drive to Rickety Bridge Winery just outside Franschhoek. Upon our arrival we posed for a group photo in front of the historical Cape Dutch farm homestead. Mercedes-Benz Paarl was kind enough







to provide some eye candy in the form of a GTR featuring centre stage on the photo. Next followed a photograph of all the W114/115's present to celebrate the 50th birthday of that iconic model. We then headed for the massive oak trees on the lawn for wine tasting, followed by an enjoyable lunch served in the restaurant. Monday afternoon: Protea Hotel Durbanville provided the venue for our AGM where club members received feedback on all club affairs for 2018. Then we were off to our rooms to put on our Sunday best for the gala evening at Eensgezind Function Venue close to Durbanville.

Monday evening: Upon our arrival at sunset we were greeted with cocktails and canapés on the terrace overlooking the farm dam. By the time we entered the stylishly decorated function venue, everyone was ready for an evening of fun. I formally opened the event and welcomed club members from near and far. Waldo Scribante then took to the stage to acknowledge everyone who contributed to the success of the gathering. The wine was excellent and between all the formalities we were served with deliciously plated starters and mains while enjoying the company of old and new friends.

We had our dessert when an auction for the benefit of the Ruyterwacht Senior Centre got underway and various special items were up for grabs. Juan Rossouw, our excellent auctioneer, encouraged club members to open their hearts and wallets and an astonishing R41 700 was raised! What an excellent way to conclude an amazing weekend!

Tuesday morning: The AGM committee joined the last guests for breakfast at the Protea Hotel Durbanville. After we bade everyone a safe trip, it was back to reality and a long drive home for some of us! ■









# TAILEND

---

Proud members ...

**W**hat an excellent way to showcase our Club events, and this, in a hardcover A4 glossy coffee table book. The 2017 annual Benz Lens bumper edition covered all 6 regions' events and highlights, the National Concours, as well as a beautiful photo of our National Committee. The talk of 2017, the Ponton Bakkie, was also featured in the "TAILEND" and a pleasure to read. Every member attending the 2018 Gala evening received a neatly wrapped copy there and then, and the rest of the members got theirs through their Regional Chairmen. Thank you and well done Waldo and Stephen. – *Dirk van der Westhuizen*

**I**am very proud of the flagship Benz Lens annual!

I have seen the club grow over the past twenty-some years, not so much in size, but in sophistication and quality.

I remember when the Benz Lens

used to be a cheap 6-pager, printed in blue, with poor quality photographs and an amateur layout. In my time as president we managed to secure some funding from the then MBSA, to the tune that we could afford to put out a decent publication through a commercial publisher.

I personally edited the Benz Lens for a number of years, and I am well aware of what it takes to publish a quality product.

I, together with many other club members, was quite disappointed with the physical demise of the Benz Lens. Being old school, I still enjoy holding a hard copy rather than reading something out there in cyber space! I must add that I have nonetheless been reading the online version of the Benz Lens enthusiastically, and I must congratulate the editorial team for a job very well done.

The first annual is a WOW! All

was instantly forgiven regarding the disappearance of the printed 'Lens..... in fact I prefer this as a flagship publication of the club. In a nutshell, a condensed version of the best of the Benz Lenses of the past year.

I am proud to be a longstanding member of the best car club in South Africa! – *Graham van Heerden*

**E**k dink dit was wonderlik met die jaar se hoogste punte en nou het jy weer n hard copy wat jy kan bymekaar maak . Waldo en Stephen, julle kan aanhou met hom!! – *Ettienne Geel*

End



Mercedes-Benz  
The best or nothing.

