

# SKÅL International Natal Midlands

No.610

International Association of Travel & Tourism Professionals

Founded 1934

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## NEWSLETTER MAY-JULY 2011

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### ***FUNCTIONS***

May's function was an a la carte dinner at Committee Member Adrian McWilliams' revamped venue, Old Main Brewery. Skalleague Stan Goodenough gave an animated talk on 'Cruising as a Holiday Option'. 7 Members and 5 Guests attended.



Due to time constraints, it was decided to not have a June function.

July's venue on the 27th will be held at Skalleague Paul Laing's Redlands Hotel. It will take the format of a Speed Marketing Dinner where Diners are given 3 minutes to talk on their product.

Meryl Kurz has confirmed the 26<sup>th</sup> November as the date for our ever popular annual Pig & Whistle Cabaret evening at Skalleague Gion Poltera's Fernhill Hotel.

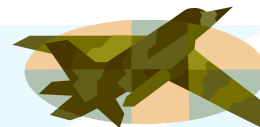
### ***MEMBERSHIP***



Your Committee requests that members identify a "Colleague a month" to introduce at our Club functions.

### ***MOVERS AND SHAKERS***

Our Secretary's son, ex Skalleague Brett and his wife Adri, had a narrow escape when their bakkie rolled down a 30m embankment while on their way to Indaba. Adri sustained injuries but recovered well enough to join Brett on a Round Table trip to Germany last month. Lynn will be visiting Germany herself this month to do her annual Hoof Trimming Continued Education studies and will also visit Spain to do part of the Camino Trail.



Our Treasurer and his wife Mary, enjoyed another fascinating Cruise, this time cruising the Volga from Moscow to St Petersburg. Together with fellow Member Jeff and his wife Alice, Stan ensures Kzn Midlands Members never have to leave the comfort of their arm chairs to experience the wonders that our wonderful Planet has to offer.

## TOURISM INITIATIVES

**Friends of the Falls** – June 5<sup>th</sup> saw the 1<sup>st</sup> Anniversary of the Tourism Ambassador programme at the popular tourist site of Howick Falls. June's foreign visitors totalled 744 which represented 8.7% of the total number of visitors for the month. To date the Falls have been viewed by tourist from 129 countries around the globe. Stan Goodenough can be contacted at [h99@mweb.co.za](mailto:h99@mweb.co.za) for more information on the Ambassador programme.

**African Conservation Trust Rhino Fund** – Skalleague Sharon Ilett is passionate about wildlife and will demonstrate this by bravely joining the "Skydive for Rhinos" fundraising jump on the 6<sup>th</sup> August. Sharon is looking for sponsorship, she can be contacted on [sharoni@kznwildlife.com](mailto:sharoni@kznwildlife.com) or get more info on the event at [www.projectafrica.com](http://www.projectafrica.com).

### **Tourism Education Trust –**

Contact Lorraine at [tour.ed32@gmail.com](mailto:tour.ed32@gmail.com) to find out how your local schools can benefit from this programme.

*Lorraine Bryant (Tourism Education Trust Manager) handing tourism books and posters to Rose Thusi (left), principal of Champagne Valley Primary School for the past 27 years. The recent presentation was made possible by the sponsorship of Skal International KZN Midlands, who donated funds to buy books for five schools in the Midlands and Drakensberg*



**Midlands Meander Education Project** - Read about the wonderful happenings at Sifisesihle Primary in Mpophomeni Township on the Underberg Road in their Winter News- letter by contacting Nikki Brighton at [info@mmaep.co.za](mailto:info@mmaep.co.za) for an electronic copy or visit their website [www.mmaep.co.za](http://www.mmaep.co.za).

**P.U.M.** – Our Immediate Past President, Bunny Bhoola, recently hosted a member of P.U.M., a Netherlands NGO of retired Professionals who willingly give of their time and expertise to mentor business people around the world. Google PUM for more information.

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**SKÅL INTERNATIONAL** - Professionals in Tourism, business amongst friends. SKÅL founded 1934, is the largest organisation of professionals and tourism leaders around the world, promoting global tourism and friendship. It is the only international group uniting all branches of the travel and tourism industry. Its members, the industry's managers and executives, meet at local, national, regional and international levels to discuss and pursue topics of common interest.