

## IN MEMORIAM OF CHRIS THEUNISSEN

In 2003 I attended my first Saamtrek at Gariep, and at the time met the committee of that year and a big man there with a Volvo 164 and a caravan, with two young daughters and his wife Dalene were introduced to me as Chris Theunissen, at the time Chris was the Vice Chairman of the Club.

Over the years saw Chris at numerous events in and around Gauteng, always friendly yet at times a serious man when it came to Club matters. A real stalwart and an example to many of the club members when it came to supporting the Club and attending events, especially the Saamtrek.

In all my years of having spent time with Chris, he never complained, if there was criticism, it was always positive criticism and importantly suggesting a solution. Attending the Saamtrek is associated with cost, Chris never complained about that, and religiously attended the Saamtrek. Gave input when needed always there to assist.

In 2017 I learnt, and I wasn't surprised at all, that Chris since joining the Club, ONLY missed one National Saamtrek, for which he won a prize at the Prize Giving Dinner! Chris is also one of the few members that insisted that his 2 daughters become members of the Club, making sure that the Theunissen family will always be present in the Club. I am sure that they will follow in the Father's footsteps, create their own legacy.

Since 2012 one of the trophies we award each year is the Chairman's Award, a trophy which is awarded at the SOLE discretion of the Chairman. Chris was the recipient at the 2018 Saamtrek, where he joins the a select/ elite group of Club members, being Peter Aneck-Hahn, Howard Bates/ Liz Bates, Brian Smal, Fred Hawman, Gerrit du Plessis and Oom Tom Campher.

Sadly, on Friday 19 July 2019, Chris passed away unexpectedly and it was a shock to his loved ones, family and friends as he wasn't ill and was just in hospital being monitored after having felt ill.

Chris will be sorely missed by many of us in the coming years, the big man with the small heart and if something goes wrong, Chris will have that serious look on his face and tell us "Shit happens"!

On behalf of the Club and its members our sincerest condolences to Dalene, Adel and Lizette and family, may Chris rest in peace and may his legacy never fade. Our prayers, thoughts and memories of Chris are with you.



Chris & Dalene enjoying the Saamtrek Dinner



Chris & Adel at one the Saamtrek's held at Aldam



Lizette, Adel & Chris at Maselspoort



2018 Chairman's Award winner Chris Theunissen

We will miss you it was a privilege knowing you.