

THE BLACK POWDER SHOOTING UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA



www.bpsu.co.za

Formerly The Historical Firearms Shooting Union Founded in 1958

Affiliated to:

MUZZLE LOADERS ASSOCIATIONS' INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE (MLAIC)

SOUTH AFRICAN BISLEY UNION (SABU)

29 May 2017

BPSU Newsflash 6 of 2017

Mervyn Franconi

02/08/1954 – 28/05/2017

Dear BPSU members

It is with great sadness and disbelief that we have to inform you that Mervyn Franconi from Mariette Black Powder Shooting Club has passed away yesterday morning. Details about the funeral arrangements will be forwarded as and when we receive it.

Eddy Stern, chairman of Mariette Black Powder Shooting Club, compiled the following tribute.



Mervyn Franconi

It was a huge shock to learn yesterday morning, 28th May that our very dear friend and shooting colleague had passed away after a suspected heart attack at the comparatively young age of 62. He had fairly recently retired as Head of IT Security at FNB.

Mervyn was a bundle of energy and activity with an unusual wide range of activities. He was an active and strong mountain bike rider and had previously been a scuba diver. From flying kites in the past, he had "progressed" to owning a drone and flying it very competently.

His passion for photography had extended into being present at SANDF live equipment presentations and making recordings for the benefit of the Forces.

To the B.P. shooting fraternity and particularly his home Club, he was a very valued and popular member with a great sense of humour. He established the Mariette BPS Club's web page, which he updated on a regular basis. He augmented it with numerous photos of our various events including novel night shoots with brilliant and spectacular images. Prior to joining Mariette in 2009, he was a serious combat shooter and showed the skill in our 10m handgun event with outstanding results.

Cathy Franconi has always been a staunch and popular supporter of Mervyn's activities, joining him on the firing range and taking part in Club activities.

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Our heartfelt condolences and sympathy go out to her and daughter Debbie and her two grandchildren in this time of huge loss.

Eddy Stern

Kind regards

DR CORENA DE BEER
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