

Spotlight on the Zululand Branch

A new branch of the Institute—the Zululand Branch— was formed at the end of last year. After many months of preparation and perusal of address lists, it was realized that a branch serving our members north of the Tugela was long overdue. A small steering committee consisting of Messrs John Selby, Dawid de Wet Smith, and Bill Kluckow got the branch off to a roaring start. They organized the inaugural meeting, which was held at the Richards Hotel in Richards Bay on 28th October, 1993. Out of a possible 70 members residing in a 100 km radius, over half attended that first meeting!

At the meeting, the aims and objectives of the Branch were spelt out, and the programme of monthly technical talks for the next six months was presented. True to Institute tradition, the venue, catering, and bar were secured for the following year, and sponsorship of the bar (to ensure good fellowship and lively debate) was secured for the next 18 months!

The 'gang of three' (Messrs Selby, De Wet Smith, and Kluckow) were duly elected to be the Committee to run the Branch in the interim period prior to formal elections being held at the Annual General Meeting in mid-1994.

The main address of the evening was given by SAIMM President, Dr Hugh Scott-Russell, who presented an overview of the Institute and the plans for the forthcoming centenary year. This was followed by an address by Mr John Cruise on the proposed structure for professional bodies in the minerals industry.

A highly successful evening was concluded with a cocktail party sponsored by Richards Bay Minerals. A word of warning to out-of-town visitors is that the coastal definition of sartorial elegance is a question of semantics—semi-formal dress translates into 'open-neck shirts'. The accompanying photograph clearly separates the venerable visitors from the laid-back locals.



Inaugural General Meeting of the Zululand Branch. From left to right: Dawid de Wet Smith, Dr Hugh Scott-Russell (President, SAIMM), John Selby, John Cruise, and Bill Kluckow

If the strength of the Institute is derived from the strength and activities of the branches, then the launching of the Zululand Branch augurs well for the Institute's next 100 years. We wish our coastal colleagues every success for the future.



XV CONGRESS OF THE COUNCIL OF MINING AND METALLURGICAL INSTITUTIONS

Our apologies for publishing the incorrect dates in the November/December 1993 issue.
The correct dates are as follows.

Sunday 4 to Thursday 8 September 1994 — Congress Sessions at Sun City Complex
Friday 9 to Saturday 24 September 1994 — Post-Congress tours

Registration forms are now available from:

Bill Emmett, Congress Manager, 15th CMMI Congress, P.O. Box 809, Johannesburg 2000, South Africa
Telephone (27) (11) 838-8211 (office) or (27) (11) 883-3072 (home)
or Fax: (27) (11) 838-4255