

PRESIDENT'S REPORT FOR 2013 DELIVERED BY TUTTY FABER AT THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING ON MONDAY 2 DECEMBER 2013.

I am afraid that this year's Presidential report is very disappointing. That is not to say there were disappointing times or results within the Society. Far from it. Because the club was able to celebrate most satisfactory social triumphs and spectacular successes in a whole variety of sporting disciplines. The disappointment comes from the chairs and committees of the sub clubs being unwilling to share their achievements and victories with the rest of the members via the President whose role is to build and cement the sub clubs into a vibrant and achieving association.

My function tonight is to announce that the Old Edwardian Society indulged in athletics (which held a record road race with so much support from the co-hosts that the rest of the Old Edwardian membership was not required to help the section), hockey, junior football, squash racquets, tennis, war games and water polo during the past year. If you were unfortunate to have not been able to attend the Sportsman of the Year, you would not have any idea of how they coped. If you were not fortunate as I have been to attend the hockey dinner, which celebrated a near phoenix like revival or the tennis 80th anniversary dinner dance, you would have no idea of what our fellow members accomplished or who achieved national selection or who were crowned the best in the world. Please Chairpersons, don't hide your light under a bushel. Share your triumphs with your fellow members.

Only three sub clubs took the trouble to inform me and the membership. Firstly, the bowls club.

It must be a great source of pride to the bowlers and Servest that the two greens were rated A. In other words, amongst the best in the Province. Both the top gentleman's Saturday afternoon league teams achieved promotion at the conclusion of the season. Added to which the previous Jewish Guild, Melrose club members joined Old Edwardians en bloc doubling the sub clubs membership. I wish them a happy stay. All the traditional fixtures were played and enjoyed. The section earned glory when a 15 year old and an 11 year old member were selected for their province in the under 19 Provincial tournament.

The cricket section deservedly earned the sub club of the year at the Sportsman of the Year function because, notwithstanding their good results, theirs was a story of providing the environment that enables inexperienced players to develop their techniques, maturity and judgement. To witness the Sunday 7th league side comprising players graduating from the Saturday clinic that is for boys older than 8, and enabling

them to play league cricket, and finishing mid table in a league comprising teams with an average age of at least double theirs. In terms of results the Premier league was the pick of the teams, and narrowly lost out in the National Club championship. As well as nurturing our juniors, the sub club has “adopted” the inner city club, Johannesburg Cricket Club, and will strive to develop them so that the inner city boys can be exposed to healthy athletic competition. Jimmy Cook (ex Pirates) and his two sons, and Anne Pratt are instrumental in the progress of the cricket club.

The last committee that submitted a report as Happy Hour which does so much all through the year to draw the disparate sub club members to a bi-monthly society get-together. The Happy Hour draw that takes place every first Friday of the month except January, when it is held on the second Friday, enabling some lucky members to recoup the R50 annual subscription. Pat Cotter also arranges a whole string of extremely interesting speakers to address us on virtually any subject under the sun on the third Friday of each month except December, when it is in recess. Pat has a remarkable series of successes starting in the eighties.

Mr. Chairman, that concludes my report.