

**BOND VAN DIE
VERMEULEN FAMILIE**
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DIE MEULENAAR NOVEMBER 2024

Foreword

It's once again time to celebrate the memories and milestones of the larger VERMEULEN family over the past year and it is a wonderful opportunity to reflect on what defines our unique family heritage.

This year has also been marked by important moments – new additions, achievements, and maybe even some challenges. In a world that often rushes by, let this newsletter serve as a reminder to cherish our time together. It's not just about the events we celebrated, but also about the everyday moments that remind us of our shared journey.

Please add your voice, your stories, and your love to this collection of memories. May it inspire us to continue to create beautiful memories together, strengthen our bonds and celebrate the rich tapestry of the Vermeulen family.

Bond Membership and New Members

We currently have a membership of 68 members and 4 friends. Figures are declining and we will have to make an effort to grow our membership. We thank all our members who faithfully pay their annual membership fees.

We are also sorry to report that three of our members past away during the course of the year:

Willem (Willie) Jacobus Petrus Vermeulen D33 died on 21.09.2021, but we were only informed of his death this year. Willie lived in Namibia.

Hendrik Johannes Vermeulen D78 died suddenly on 7.08.2024. He lived in Warmbad and was 83yrs old at the time of his death.

Michelle Meyer J16 passed away unexpectedly on 3.09.2024 at the age of 51yrs. She was the daughter of Izak Vermeulen J12 and the sister of Charmain J4 and Tania J17 (her twin sister). Izak was a

board member of the Association for many years and was also responsible, together with his brother Johan, for the research and establishment of our Vermeulen register as well as the establishment of the Association.

Our deepest sympathy to the next of kin of these 3 members.

A warm welcome also to Johannes Petrus (Jan) Vermeulen D19 who joined us on 5.04.2024. We trust that you will enjoy your membership with us.

Facebook and Webpage

Our Facebook membership continues to increase and we currently have 772 members. Thanks to our admin members who handle the administration of Facebook and those of you who share interesting facts about the Vermeulen family. We would like to encourage members to continue providing information, photos, etc.

As you know, our web page can be found at <https://www.vermeulenbond.org> with many new articles and interesting articles. In particular we would like to request all members to send us photos and information regarding antiques/souvenirs of Vermeulen ancestors that are in your possession, for placement on the website under the heading Souvenirs.

The website was visited by 79 persons on a monthly basis in the past year compared to the 83 persons last year. Please take note that our website is available in both Afrikaans and English. Except for some of the early editions of Die Meulenaar, all articles have been translated. On the homepage of the website, click on the South African flag for the Afrikaans version and on the United Kingdom flag for the English version.



The electronic version of the 2019 updated gender register, as well as the commemorative edition (provided free of charge to members) can also be downloaded via our website for the small amount of R50 for members and R100 for non-members. For all other purchases please also visit our webpage.

Genealogy

There are no longer any copies of our genealogy available in book form. It is not foreseen that the register will ever be reprinted and if you own this book, keep it in good condition as it may become another sought-after collection piece. It is also available digitally, though.

The maintenance of our database continues undisturbed. We've added a lot of old deaths, births, baptisms, and marriages in the past year of long-dead persons. However, we need every Vermeulen to update new information of persons alive as well as new deaths, etc. We need everybody's assistance in this regard. Please help us with this important task. On 31.08.2024, there were 18764 (18520) names recorded in the database of Dirk Cornelisz and 5372 (5330) names in the case of Jan Willemsz. This also includes, for example, spouses who are not Vermeulens. The numbers (names) in brackets are last year's figures.

Club 80

The Club 80 currently consists of 3 members. May they be spared for the Bond and their close relatives for a long time to come. We pray for their blessing and good health.

Martinus Godfried Drotskie (Tienie) Vermeulen D <11365> is 82 years old this year.

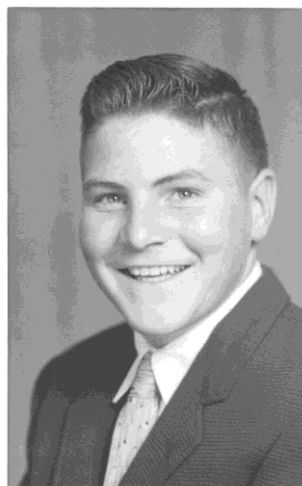
Izak Stefanus Vermeulen J<78> Member J12 will be 81yr in December 2024

Leon Vermeulen D<4460> Member D52 turned 81yr this year.

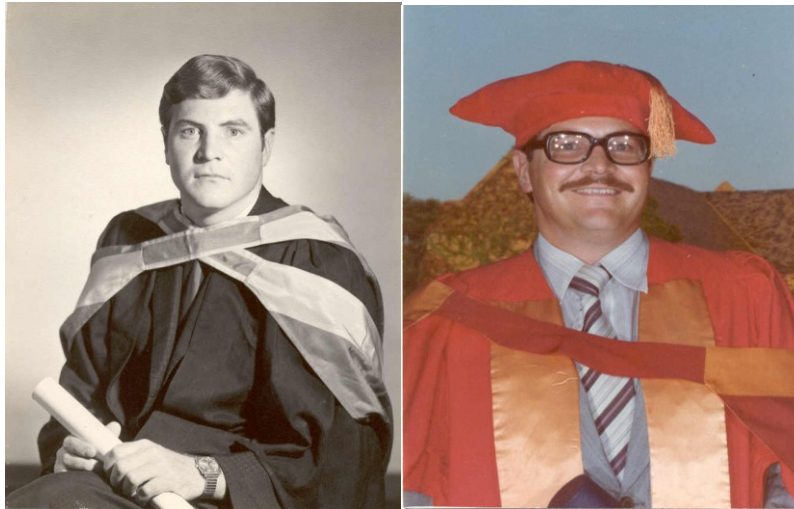
Two club 80 members passed away as mentioned above.

The following member joins Club 80 this year and he provided us with his short life sketch below:

Dr Leopold Petrus Vermeulen J29 <3104> Leo was born on 3 January 1945 in Montagu, Cape Town. Mother Joey raised him in Middelburg (Eastern Cape) and later in Carnarvon (Northern Cape). Adventurous and ostentatious, with a high-keil and loudspeaker at school. With an ear-to-ear smile, he completed his schooling at Middelburg High School in 1962.



For nation and fatherland he did his part. As Lance Luitenant he completed his military service in 1963 and retired as Captain from the Militia Unit of Chief of Staff Staff in 1984.



The Academy has been in his blood since childhood. All the research, publications and academic stuff. Nothing but Cum Laude was his motto. Even visiting Antarctica for Doctoral research and his passion for aviation management took him all over. This is why he chose academia as a career.

Valerie Botha then came across his path as a "blind date" in 1970 and there the arrogant lion's straps were tightly grasped.



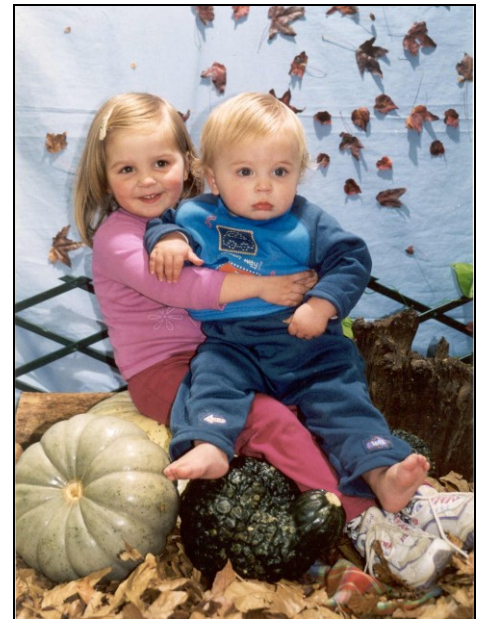
In 2010, Valerie and their two children still had him fully under control. His speaker remains his companion through thick and thin. Again and again he is admonished that his voice carries too far. Notwithstanding, Valerie holds it out and they celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary together on December 12, 2020.



His children, Zunelle and Henco, were flown in by the stork, a prouder Dad is hard to find.

Besides his family, Leo has a love for his blue Beetle, Cindy the dog, and his two grandchildren.





Danelle en Tihan .

Don't think he didn't relax too. With hat, stick and cap he is also just pure man.

At 59, he takes research leave "sebaticle," a year "off" from work, writing reports and travelling the world. On 3 January 2005, Leo was back in his post. A new direction and building on with new zeal.

For outstanding service to his field, the SA Society for Industry and Organisational Psychology honoured him with Honorary Membership in 2007.



After 40 years of service, Leopold Petrus Vermeulen retired from the service of the University of Pretoria on 30 June 2010.

Since 2011, he and Valerie have lived near their children and grandchildren in Bundaberg, Queensland, Australia.
Dual Citizenship: RSA and AUS in 2016.



On 03 Jan 2025, Leo thanks his Creator for 80 years of blessed life experiences.

Births

The Vermeulen family also expanded with the birth of Joeke Elizabeth Vermeulen on 28 February 2024 at Louis Leipoldt. Congratulations to father Mattheus Johannes (Johan) Vermeulen and his wife, as well as grandfather and grandmother Johan and Louise who are both board members of the Bond.

Vermeulen-day 9 Augustus 2024

Following an earlier management decision to celebrate a Vermeulen Day every year and thus try to establish a tradition, it was decided to hold it on 9 August every year, which is also a national holiday. This year it was

dedicated to all the women in our lives. We also held a competition for the most beautiful contribution to this purpose and the prizes contained fine jewels for the women. The 3 prize winners of our Women's Day/Vermeulen-day competition on 9 August 2024 were:

1st Rina Esterhuizen

2nd Jan Hendrik Vermeulen

3rd Isabel Lombard

Many thanks to all the participants. Take a look at some of the nice contributions we received:

Jan Hendrik Vermeulen

Thank you to all the Vermeulen Ladies, young and old, we appreciate you with all our heart. Thank you for the love and support. Without you, life will be hard. Thanks a lot. Love you all.

Vermeulens HuHa!

Hennie Vermeulen



Good day all my Vermeulen namesakes. This year we celebrate Vermeulen Day, which coincides with Women's Day. We not only commemorate the arrival of our two ancestors Dirk Corneliszoon and Jan Willemszoon in South Africa, but it is also fitting that we pay special tribute to all Vermeulen women. Thank you very much for the privilege of being able to celebrate and commemorate our legacy together with other Vermeulen descendants. I would like to lift a glass to everyone and especially our Vermeulen women and may you enjoy this day with your loved ones.

Proud Vermeulen. Cheers!!!

Nico Vermeulen



Back from left: Paul Duvenage, Nico, André, Reinhard, Pierre Duvenage
Front: Linda Duvenage (nee Vermeulen), Hesta Vermeulen (nee Pieterse),
Reneé Vermeulen (nee van Antwerpen), Helgaard Vermeulen and Eliska
Duvenage.

Engagement

Soon the Vermeulen community will welcome another beautiful lady into our ranks. Reinhard Vermeulen, son of André and Reneé Vermeulen from Vanderbijlpark, received the yes-word on 12 October 2024 from Sunelle Steyn, also from Vanderbijlpark. Congratulations Reinhard and Sunelle, may you experience many years of happiness together!



To conclude, a beautiful Afrikaans poem by our fellow board member Johan

Life

Short-lived

A Blink of an Eye in Nature

In the folds of time

Barely able to look around

Why was I here

What was my goal

A Living Soul

A Moment on Earth

If I were just a stairwell

For Mankind's Next Step

My Generation's Hustle and Bustle in the Variegated

A repeat of an older round

Where is it going

Where does it come from

Man's Existence

About Life We Are Concerned