



Sandstone Heritage Trust

For Immediate release

Impressive Military, Aviation and Heritage Parade at Stars of Sandstone 2014
Eastern Free State – Saturday, 19th April 2014.

At the annual Stars of Sandstone event which takes place from 12th-21st April 2014, a unique Military Parade has been included for the benefit of our International and local Heritage enthusiasts.

There is no question that this year we will have the biggest, most interesting and exciting Military turnout that Sandstone and the SA Armour Museum from Bloemfontein has ever been able to put together at a Sandstone event. This achievement will largely be due to the tremendous support provided by the SA Armour Museum in Bloemfontein who with a great team of dedicated Officers and other ranks are going out of their way to ensure that visitors to Stars of Sandstone 2014 will not be disappointed.

The highlight of the Stars of Sandstone event will be a flypast and military vehicle convoy drive past with a high ranking officer taking the Salute to mark the 10th anniversary of the relationship between the SA Armour Museum and the Sandstone Heritage Trust.

The SA Armour Museum will be bringing a State-of-the-art Olifant Main Battle Tank, a Russian T72 Main Battle Tank (MBT's), and a current in service Rooikat Armoured Fighting Vehicle (AFV) to exhibit and to take part in the Parade. Sandstone's Ratel Infantry Combat Vehicle (ICV), Mark IV Sherman Tank, a Russian Stalin Organ, and 35 other Military vehicles will also be part of the Parade.

As impressive as this is, it is only the beginning. There will be mounted security personnel on horseback, ox wagons with "troops" travelling behind them, and a giant 35-ton B5 Fowler Boer War Traction engine towing a heavy Military load. On the railway side Sandstone's 1915 Feldbahn which saw service behind the German lines in the First World War will move past with an appropriate consist.

To wrap things up a Harvard and a number of other aircraft of appropriate vintage will be involved in the flypast. There will be some other surprises as well. All of this will be photographed from the air as well as from the ground. The sights, the sounds, the spectacle and the detail will have the lenses of a world class group of photographers heating up like gun barrels from the number of photographs that they will be taking. All this will take place on our magnificent 900 metre grass airfield.

Whatever you do, do not miss the spectacle – it will almost certainly never be repeated in this format again.

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The South African Olifant (MBT)



The Russian T72 (MBT)



The South African Rooikat 105 (AFV)



The Sandstone Heritage Trust 1915 Feldbahn locomotive which saw service behind the German lines during WW1 will be one of the Stars of the parade.



Mk IV Sherman tank



South African Ratel (IFV)



Ex SAAF Harvard at Sandstone Estates

