

The tail is from Otto Thaning's Beechcraft Staggerwing, ZS-BBC. Perhaps the best example of mixing business and pleasure was Otto Thaning and his two Beechcraft 17L aircraft (later known as Staggerwings) both registered as ZS-BBC. Thaning, a Danish gentleman who came to South Africa as the representative of a Swiss-German company that sold equipment to the mines, decided that flying would give him the edge over his competitors, by allowing him to travel at speed to prospective clients. He learnt to fly at Baragwanath, first owned a de Havilland DH.80A Puss Moth, also registered ZS-BBC, this being the acronym for the company he represented. The Staggerwing was raced by Thaning in two Governor-General's Cup Air Races. Thaning also used the aircraft to undertake a "Round the Union" flight on 30 December 1935 in which he flew Johannesburg, Durban, Port Elizabeth, Cape Town, Johannesburg in 18 hours. Both Staggerwings were white with red markings, the same colours as the Danish flag.

Otto Thaning and one of his Beechcraft Staggerwings, ZS-BBC
Framed and hanging in the Clubhouse is a copy of High Flight written, in 1941, by Pilot
Officer John Gillespie Magee, Jr.

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/John_Gillespie_Magee,_Jr.

Nooitgedacht

On 15th September 1900, the men of the TVK exhume the body of their brave Commandant and rebury him in the family cemetery of the Pienaar family near Fochville.

On 10th March 1903, Danie Theron's last will was carried out. His body was once again exhumed to be reburied next to that of his beloved late fiancée Hannie Neethling on her father's farm Eikenhof on the Klip River. The great hero has returned to the love of his life.

