



Contact! Contact!

June 2012

A monthly sitrep for the

Rhodesian Services Association Incorporated

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To view all previous publications go to our [Archives](#)

Greetings,

This newsletter is in its tenth year of production. Since April 2006 it has been produced every month with the exception of a couple of Decembers when I have had a break. It has gone from less than ten pages to being regularly over twenty pages now. It has evolved from being almost entirely my own work to having two regular columnists who provide a lion's share of the quality content that you now enjoy, along with casual contributors and snippets from many of you from around the globe. Along the way there have been lots of technical challenges which I have tried to solve in order to ensure delivery to the slowest of internet connections and the oldest of computers!

Production of **Contact! Contact!** is very time consuming for me, Gerry van Tonder, Grunter Robertson, and not forgetting John Lomas (the only qualified journalist amongst us) who adds the final polish to each issue. It means finding time away from our businesses and other commitments in order to put it all together in a professional manner. So for all of us it is very satisfying to know that our efforts are being read and enjoyed. We believe that we are providing people with valuable material with which they can learn more about Rhodesian history, as well as connecting with the world wide Rhodesian diaspora. It is also important for our Association to keep up regular communications to maintain people's interest and keep the Flame burning.

The popularity of **Contact! Contact!** places a lot of pressure on us to keep up the standard and continue to improve on it where possible. We place a high degree of responsibility on what we do and on the regular delivery of each issue.

The end is finally in sight for the Rhodesia Regiment book project that has run my life for the last five years. The book is titled '*The Rhodesia Regiment History*' and will be published in 2013. The project has enjoyed dedicated input from a small group of writers and researchers, as well as input from hundreds of other people from around the globe. It is sponsored by the Rhodesian Services Association who will retain all the gathered material as part of the archives for the benefit of future research.

The main body of the script is now complete and ready to be edited. Peter Baxter was contracted to write the book. Peter has written a number of books to date: '*Rhodesia, The Last Outpost of the British Empire*'; '*Selous Scouts: Rhodesian Counter-Insurgency Specialists*'; '*France in Centrafrique*'; '*Mau Mau: The Legacy of an African Rebellion*' and '*The South African Air Force in the Border War*'

The following people (all of whom are published authors with the exception of Tony Fraser and myself) are making major contributions to various sections of the project:

- Rolls of Honour – Gerry van Tonder and Adrian Haggett
- Record of Battalion and Independent Company leaders – Gerry van Tonder
- Medals – Craig Fourie
- Uniforms – Tony Fraser and Dudley Wall
- General research and proof reading – Gerry van Tonder
- Project coordination and illustration cataloguing – Hugh Bomford

Publication of *'The Rhodesia Regiment History'* in 2013 means I have to get a lot of work completed before the end of this year. In order to do this we will not be publishing **Contact! Contact!** in December 2012 and January 2013. Sorry about this, but I have to commit a great deal of time to complete this very important project to my satisfaction.

For those who are only just picking up on this project (or have forgotten with the passing of time) the original idea dates back to the late 1990's and was based on a suggestion made to me by Dave Gordon, son of my Dad's half section in Burma, Ginge Gordon.

I would like to point out that this Rhodesia Regiment project should not be confused with the rumoured publication of a book entitled *'The Rhodesia Regiment: From Boer War to Bush War: 1899-1980'* by Alexandre Binda. His book was also initiated by me, but a difference of opinion took place in 2009 which saw him leave the project and seek publication with Peter Stiff who publishes under the title of Galago.

I leave it to your imagination as to how glad I will be once I have completed my commitment to the production of *'The Rhodesia Regiment History'*.

Rhodesian Services Association Purpose & Web Links

The Rhodesian Services Association Incorporated is an Incorporated Society as well as a Registered Charity under the New Zealand Charities Act 2005. The purpose of the Association is to provide benefit and education to the community. For detail and disclosure please refer to the opening page of our website www.rhodesianservices.org

We also have a Facebook group which you are welcome to join. We have loaded up a lot of photographs from various events, as well as others from our museum displays. We have found that Facebook is another platform assisting our purpose of preserving Rhodesian history. If you want to find us, search for Rhodesian Services Association on Facebook.

Please use these links on our website www.rhodesianservices.org for the following resources:

Guest Book <http://www.rhodesianservices.org/guest-book.htm>

Guest Map <http://www.rhodesianservices.org/guest-map.htm>

Events <http://www.rhodesianservices.org/events.htm>

Obituaries

The Rhodesian Services Association holds a large Rhodesian flag for use at funerals. Please contact me at hbomford@clear.net.nz to arrange delivery if required.

From Vic MacKenzie:

Monty Maughan joined the Rhodesian Air Force in 1962. Latterly he worked for the FAA in Oklahoma City. He was an outstanding cyclist having won many regional and national titles in his age group. He was a very popular and charismatic person.

"Wednesday, May 2 2012 Fatal cyclist collision in Oklahoma City OKLAHOMA CITY – Last night a group of four cyclists and a 67 year old cyclist travelling in opposite directions collided. The 67 year old man, Monty Maughan was transported to the hospital in critical condition. Two other cyclists were also transported to the hospital in good condition. Monty Maughan died as a result of the collision. The incident happened near Lake Hefner, in Oklahoma City, OK. It is unknown if the collision happened on public streets or on a multi-use path at the Lake.

Monty Maughan, 67, was a member of OKC Velo Club. He has two sons and a daughter. Our thoughts and prayers go out to his family and friends."

From Lionel Naidoo on 9/5/2012:

"Johnson Holman, formerly Rhodesia Defence Regiment, passed away last week in Harare from Cancer. A good man and soldier. Rest well. We will not forget them."

George Galloway, RLI, died in South Africa in May from a heart attack.

Peter Thorogood, SAS, died on the 26th May 2012 after a battle with lung cancer.

From ORAFS:

Des Sharp died in the Avenues Clinic, Harare, Zimbabwe, after a long illness. Des attested, into the Rhodesian Air Force, with 21 LAR (Radio) in February 1967.”

Des was well known to many on a social network (that predated Facebook by a decade) as *The Horseless Deputy*. RIP Des.

From Don Scott dated 6th May 2012:

*“It is with deep regret that I learnt of the passing last night of **Bill Cornish**. He died in Harare.*

Bill was a legendary Sergeant Major, and finally RSM, of 1st Battalion Rhodesia Regiment from 1969 to 1972. He always had a deep interest in army matters during and after the war years. My last association with him was through the Nomads Golf Club in Zimbabwe where he was instrumental with many of us in raising funds for Charity and the furtherance of Golf.”

Editor’s Note – Colin Riddell also wrote in with information on Bill’s passing.

From the RLI Regimental Assn:

“It is with regret that we inform you that **Terry Kotze** (ex 1 Cdo) passed away at the Helen Josephs Hospital, Melville last night (21st May 2012).

Terry is survived by his brother Larry and son Dean.

Our sincere condolences to the family and friends of Terry. We have lost a comrade and a memorable RLI character.”

From Iain Harper 6th June 2012:

*“Sadly I have just been advised that **General Keith Coster** passed away this afternoon. He lived in the Cape at Somerset West.*

Keith Coster was born in 1918 and was educated at Maritzburg College, in Pietermaritzburg, KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa. After his matriculation at school in 1936, he enlisted in the Union Defence Force (UDF) (of South Africa), and was commissioned into the SA Air Force (SAAF) on 6th September 1939. While flying a Tomahawk with 5 Squadron SAAF, he was shot down in 1942 and was a prisoner-of-war until May 1945.

On returning to South Africa, he transferred to the army and in 1955 joined the Army of the Federation of Rhodesia and Nyasaland as a Major.

He retired in 1972 as a Lieutenant-General, having commanded the Rhodesian Army from 1968 to 1972. He was also an Officer of the Order of the British Empire (OBE) and a Grand Officer of the Order of the Star of South Africa.

From John Lomas 6th June 2012:

*“I got the sad news that an old friend and ex member of my Goromonzi PATU stick, **Chris Vind**, died at the weekend in the UK (on Saturday I think).*

Chris was Danish and in his eighties but had lived and farmed in Rhodesia since his early twenties. He was married to Sue, who is English, and they have been living on a smallholding in Scotland for quite a long time now. When Chris retired (they farmed quite near us, but across the main highway and down the Bromley Loop Road) he handed Sanga Farm over to his younger son Ivar; he and his wife Sonia were eventually chased off the place by the "wovits" and subsequently came to live in NZ where he runs an ultrasound cattle pregnancy diagnosis service out of Stratford in Taranaki. Chris was a bear of a man who never managed to lose his thick accent and frequently came up with some hilarious mangled phrases in English. He was utterly fearless, had a generous heart under the gruff exterior, and was a good friend we shall sorely miss.”



Off The Radar

Please note that this will be the last month that I will include this section. I am now dealing with around 2,000 subscribers (and increasing every day). On an average day I will receive up to 100 emails in relation to my personal, business and Association interests. I have been finding that it takes up too much of my time chasing people whose addresses appear to have gone dead. In a number of cases the ‘dead address’ is in fact because the recipient’s Internet Service Provider (ISP) is blocking the email that I am sending through.

So in future it is all up to you to ensure that you change address with us. Please check with your friends and if they are not receiving our emails suggest they check their Spam Bin, Spam Settings and any other Mail Marshal-type things that may be blocking transmissions.

We want this publication to reach as many people as possible. So if you are able to, please check your systems or have your technical people check and ensure that these addresses below are cleared as friendly, or white listed:

theseecretary@rhodesianservices.org

theeditor@rhodesianservices.org

thecqstore@rhodesianservices.org

hbomford@clear.net.nz

Please remember to let us know if you are changing your email address.

Craig Bone Painting



This wonderful painting, generously donated to the Rhodesian Services Association by Craig Bone has been sold.

We are extremely grateful to Craig Bone for his support.

We are now in a position to set about purchasing the necessary software and hardware in order to begin the lengthy process of fully cataloguing our Museum Collection. Ultimately, we will be able to have the collection available via the internet for people to view and research everything. This will not happen overnight! There is a lot of work to be done.

Museum News

Roll of Honour

Trevor Jones, a sergeant in the 4th Battalion Rhodesia Regiment, made a Roll of Honour for the Sergeants' and Warrant Officers' Mess. In 1980 he removed it. Trevor offered this Roll of Honour to the Rhodesian Services Association in order that it would be in a safe place and be able to be publically displayed. It is a large piece, around 600mm x 800mm. We were fortunate that Prop Geldenhuys offered to ship it to New Zealand, free of charge, and in the middle of May Prop delivered it to me in Tauranga.

We are grateful to Trevor and Prop for getting this valuable piece of Rhodesian history to us.

The plan for this Roll of Honour is for it to be placed in the Rhodesia Regiment display at the Garrison Club at the 6th Battalion Hauraki Group in Tauranga, where we have been given sanctuary for our militaria.

We would like to make a small ceremony of the placement in respect of those named on the Roll of Honour and to give thanks to our Hauraki friends. It is important that we have present as many relatives of the men named on the Roll of Honour as possible, as well as 4RR soldiers. I know time and money are tight these days so I invite all those interested to contact me. It strikes me that the RV in October may be the best time for this. Please email me on hbomford@clear.net.nz



**WOII Clipston M.W
T/Sgt. Lunderstedt H.A.
T/WOII Hayworth R.C.**

Classic Flyers Museum Displays

Over the last couple of months we have moved all the display cabinets from the main hangar at Classic Flyers into Hangar Three. This was a major undertaking involving a number of members' hard work.



Ray Mushett lines up the Fire Force cabinet for Tony Griffiths on the forklift

I took these photos below in a 360° panorama. It is not the greatest photography and I will do some better shots for future newsletters as things get sorted. Basically we are down at the end of the hangar with display cabinets on three sides of the Hunter.

Above the biggest case which is in front of the Hunter to the right of the doorway, we plan to suspend our Alouette.

We plan to have the Alouette as a K-Car with it angled facing down towards the viewer as if it was orbiting and ready to let loose with its 20mm canon. Once again I warn you that this will not happen overnight. There is a lot of restorative work to be done before we can display it. Anyone with Alouette parts please make contact with us.



360° Panorama of Rhodesian Display area in Hangar 3 at the Classic Flyers Museum

Grunter's Good Oil

Greetings to you all wherever you are.

Things have certainly got colder this end of the world and as I write this towards the end of May we have already received three frosts in "sunny" Papamoa.

The Super 15 seems to be dragging on for me and is more like a formality. This new structure, in my view, has all but killed off the competition, with most teams mainly involved in local derby's and a lot less inter nation games. On top of that, we have about a month's break while we fit in the June Internationals before resuming the tournament. My interest has certainly waned in this competition and I would like your feedback on how you feel about it. Are you enjoying it or do you prefer the old Super 12 and Super 14 formats? One good trade off in this regard is that the Northern Hemisphere teams coming south will be at full strength and this makes for much more competitive games. I look forward to all three series, which promise to go down to the wire.

While searching for content on sport in Rhodesia I came across a paper entitled "Sport and Racial Discrimination in Colonial Zimbabwe: A Re-analysis" by Andrew Novak. It is written by a young graduate of Boston University whom I do not think has ever been to Zimbabwe. I have selected a few excerpts here that I found interesting. You can read the whole paper by clicking on the link at the end of my column.

- *"For the white community, sport was a means of social acculturation, allowing contact among relatively remote settlements and contributing to the creation of a unified white culture."*
- *"The diverse origins and class status of white settlers were de-emphasized in favour of a mythical, hegemonic, unitary white community. Rhodesian society was also very transient; the yearly turnover of the white population was among the highest in Western societies. The transience and underlying heterogeneity of the white population provided strong motive for the manufacture of a Rhodesian identity."*

The social distance between white and black Rhodesians insulated the white community from the realities of the black African existence. Sport became part of the white 'myth,' one tied to the pioneers and heroes of Rhodesian history and to Cecil Rhodes himself, the godfather of the country, who bequeathed much of the country's symbolism and self-identity. Sport was both an opportunity for often rural and isolated white settlers

to engage in a social activity, and a means by which white settlers could begin to form their own communal identities and allegiances. A sports jersey tagged 'Southern Rhodesia' helped to give some content to a Southern Rhodesian identity separate from British and South African identities. Like 'other colonial societies, which used sporting achievements to define and enhance their national self-esteem, the Rhodesians deified their heroes and relied upon their national teams to restore or sustain national morale'. This was particularly true of rugby and cricket in the 1970's given their overwhelming popularity and the isolation of Rhodesia in other sports. In 1972, cricket star Mike Proctor outpolled Prime Minister Ian Smith for 'Rhodesian of the Year'.

Sport figured prominently in the white settler history of Southern Rhodesia. The personality of Cecil Rhodes was central to the history of white sports in the territory; Rhodes himself was an avid sportsman and several of the earliest pioneers took part in the organisation of early Rhodesian sport. Sir William Milton, the South African cricket player and sponsor, accompanied Rhodes to Rhodesia and became administrator of Southern Rhodesia. Tanser recalls that the first 'pioneers' from South Africa set up sporting facilities very shortly upon their arrival. Soon after the Pioneer Column reached Fort Salisbury, they erected a race course and played cricket in what would later become Cecil Square (today, African Unity Square). By 1909, Hone could describe the numerous sports facilities in Salisbury and Bulawayo and write, 'Sport in all its varied forms fills a very important part in the life of the people, and perhaps in no other country is so much enthusiasm shown for it.' As Hodder-Williams describes of Marandellas, Rhodesia, "sport increased in popularity after the Second World War as the rationing of gasoline no longer constrained travel."



George Shaya



Langton' "Schoolboy" Tinago

- "By the 1970's, black Rhodesian athletes had become world-class competitors. Track and field star Artwell Mandaza held the unofficial world record for the 100 meter race at 9.9 seconds and became the Rhodesian Athlete of the Year for 1970. Mandaza's fastest official time, 10.2 seconds, was the fastest time ever run by a Rhodesian athlete and eleventh in the world in 1970. He toured West Germany in 1971, the first Rhodesian athlete to tour Continental Europe, and was the only Rhodesian athlete to reach the qualifying mark for the Munich Olympics in the 100 meter. Bernard Dzoma, selected for Rhodesia's ill-fated Olympic teams to Mexico City and Munich, was well-decorated, setting Rhodesian records in the 5,000 and 10,000 meter races, and winning Rhodesian championships in the three and six mile races in 1967 and 1968. The two black Rhodesian track and field stars chosen for the 1964 Tokyo Olympic team, Robson Mrombe and Mathias Kanda, also held Rhodesian national records; Mrombe held the record in the six miler and Kanda in the marathon. The International Amateur Athletic Federation found that Rhodesian track and field was multiracial and did not include racially exclusive clubs or competitions; in addition, the administration of the Rhodesian Amateur Athletic Union was multiracial. Rhodesian track and field stars had also won impressive victories in the South African Games and other international competitions. Athletics was not the only sport in which black Rhodesian athletes had achieved renown throughout Southern Africa. Association football champion George Shaya became a finalist for Rhodesian Sportsman of the Year in 1976 and became Rhodesian Soccer Star of the Year five times. In 1969, at age 19 Shaya was selected as a member of the Rhodesian World Cup team."

For those who wish to read the whole article [Click Here](#) and locate the applicable article titled Sport and Racial Discrimination in Colonial Zimbabwe.

'Till next month, go well & send any feedback to fourstreams@xtra.co.nz

Regards
Grunter



Dateline Rhodesia 1890 – 1980 by Gerry van Tonder



June

For me this month represents an anniversary. A year ago Hugh approached me with a view to placing a column in the Rhodesia Services Association monthly newsletter. My brief was simply for it to reflect something of Rhodesia's past, from the early, raw Pioneer days, to the final demise in 1980. I agreed (Hugh was very persuasive, promising me JK Rowling-type fortunes) and stumbled headlong into uncharted (for me) territory. That first column was four pages long.

As a totally untrained journalist, and a Dutchman (as Hugh calls me) to boot, every month has proved to be a daunting challenge as I endeavour to find material that may be of interest to our two thousand-odd discerning readers scattered across the Rhodesian diaspora. I have enjoyed the journey, which I have striven to keep apolitical and devoid of controversy. It will also never be an indictment of who or what we were and what we believed in. The passing of time has proved to be the ultimate vindicator.

With all of that in mind, I am introducing a new section, "What's in a Name," in which I will look at some of the well-known as well as more obscure places in Rhodesia, their origins and their history. Please continue to let me have your comments and responses as they are important to me and the column, and of course to Hugh and the Newsletter as a whole. But above all, please remember I am a volunteer on continuous call-up!

Newsflash Headlines +++ On 16 June 1896 the Mashona Rebellion breaks out as 103 settlers are murdered in the first few days +++ On 19 June 1904 the railway line from Bulawayo reaches Victoria Falls, three months before the bridge across the Zambezi River is completed +++ On 18 June 1952 a White Paper on a proposed Federation of Rhodesia and Nyasaland is tabled in the Legislative Assembly +++ On 30 June 1956 civil operations commence at Salisbury's new airport +++ On 14 June 1967 the British Government send Lord Alport to Rhodesia to see if the 18 month political deadlock can be broken +++ On 20 June 1969 the Rhodesian electorate votes in a referendum giving the Government the mandate to declare the country a republic +++ On 24 June 1969 Sir Humphrey Gibbs resigns as governor of Rhodesia +++ On 2 June 1975 thirteen people are killed as police open fire on a crowd of 5000 Africans in Highfields Township, Salisbury +++ On 1 June 1979 Bishop Abel Muzorewa assumes office as Prime Minister of the new state of Zimbabwe-Rhodesia +++

In Brief

From 15 to 28 June 1896, almost one hundred men, women and children of Mashonaland's settler community are murdered during the Mashona insurrection. People from outlying areas such as Mazoe Mine, Norton's Farm, Marandellas Mission and Mount Hampden, find their way through hostile countryside to the relative safety of a laagered Salisbury. A Defence Committee of seven had been set up, chaired by William "Mazoe" Smith, and including Dr Andrew Fleming who ran the hospital. At night, women and children were retired to the fortified inner citadel that the jail and police barracks provided. The proper occupants of the prison, including two Troopers who had stolen Lobengula's two bags of gold, were released to provide sleeping accommodation.



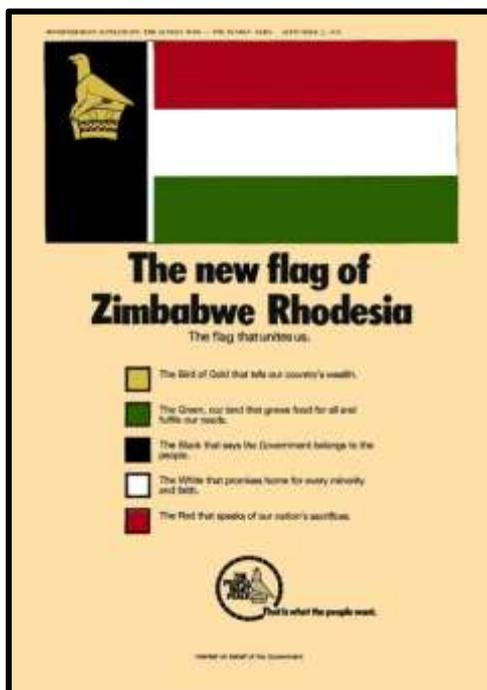
Salisbury Laager June 1896

On 28 June 1975 the Government announced that women would be recruited into the Army and Air Force, resulting in the formation of a territorial unit known as the Rhodesian Women's Service, RWS. The first training course held in Salisbury on 4 August, comprised thirty women aged between 18 and 48. These enlisted women fulfilled vital non-combatant roles such as telephone, telex and radio operators; Operations Room clerks; Intelligence clerks or photo interpretation; clerical and stores duties; and drivers and caterers.



RWS (Army) dressing on the drill square

On 1 June 1979, Zimbabwe-Rhodesia was born, under the premiership of Bishop Abel Muzorewa. With Josiah Gumede as its President, the unrecognised state ceased to exist as of 11 December of that same year. Former Rhodesian Prime Minister, Ian Smith, became Minister without Portfolio, with previous members of his government retaining control of the judiciary, police, armed forces and the civil service. Muzorewa's UANC won the majority of the Common Roll Parliamentary seats, while the Rhodesian Front took all 28 reserved White Roll seats.



What's in a Name

In 1895, a Trooper AJ Stenning of the British South Africa Company Police, while on patrol from Gwanda, came across a prospector busy pegging his claim in the bush. Upon striking up a conversation with the man, Stenning discovered that his name was S Daly, an Australian who had come to the new territory to seek his mining fortune. He

called his claim **Colleen Bawn**, after a young Irish girl he once knew. Daly's name faded into the mists of history as eight years later a company called Rhodesia Limited acquired the property.

However, the name Colleen Bawn remained as, with the discovery of a limestone deposit in the vicinity, the fledgling country strived towards self-sufficiency in a commodity so essential for development, cement. Initially, this mineral was railed to the cement factory just east of Bulawayo, but rapidly increasing demand saw the setting up of a factory at Colleen Bawn itself.



In mid-1890, men of the Pioneer Column and 'A' Troop of the British South Africa Company Police built a fort on the eastern bank of the Shashe River, ninety kilometres west of Beit Bridge. The place, known as Selous Camp, after Frederick Courteney Selous who used it as a hunting camp, was in an arid region on a dry, sandy river, appropriately called *uthuli* by the locals, a word meaning dust. **Fort Tuli**, as it became known, provided the Pioneer Column with a permanent garrison manned by troops of the police as it moved north into the hinterland of the future Rhodesia. It was in the Kalahari sands of Tuli that the first rugby match in the country was reputed to have taken place, as teams of police and pioneers battled it out in the *uthuli*.

Fort Tuli was to gain prominence during the Anglo-Boer War of 1899-1902, as the territory's southern border came under threat from a possible invasion by Boer forces. In August 1899, the British War Office tasked Major General Robert Baden-Powell to counter this threat by raising two regiments of mounted infantry in the region, one from the Bechuanaland Protectorate, and the other from Rhodesia. Colonel Plumer would use Fort Tuli as a main logistical base as he deployed squadrons of Rhodesian troops and men of the BSA Company along the Limpopo River, facing off gathering Boer commandos on the South African side.



Rhodesians in Flanders Fields

During World War I the small colony of Southern Rhodesia again rallied to the call of the Empire, this time to assist with combating German expansionism in Europe and Africa. Typically, the pro rata contribution would exceed that of other colonies and dominions, as men of varying ages volunteered for active service. This saw the formal, but brief, formation of two Rhodesia Regiment battalions, but significant numbers also volunteered to serve with British and South Africa units in Europe, effectively under the colours of foreign armies and not those of any Rhodesian unit. As a consequence, their actions as individuals in the muddy, blood-soaked trenches of France and Belgium are not always as well documented as those who served with the 1st and 2nd Battalions of the Rhodesia Regiment.

On 22 October 1914, the Legislative Council of Southern Rhodesia passed a resolution allowing for the recruitment and training of one thousand men "...to be placed at the disposal of the Imperial Government for active service in this territory or elsewhere." Two infantry battalions, the First and Second Rhodesia Regiment, were formed on this basis, the former seeing active service in German South West Africa, assisting Union troops to quell the Rebellion, and also marching with General Louis Botha against German forces in this part of Africa. The Second Battalion were deployed to German East Africa where, under the leadership of Major Algernon Capell DSO, they were engaged in numerous battles against the Germans.

1RR was disbanded at Cape Town in July 1915, and 2RR in July 1917 upon the return of the decimated Battalion from East Africa. However, men from these two Battalions, and other Rhodesians, wished to further contribute to the war effort, so as individuals they signed-up with South African and British army units for deployment in Europe. Others would enlist as officers in the Rhodesia Native Regiment, serving in the Nyasa regions of German East Africa.



Rhodesian overseas contingent aboard 'Walmer Castle' 1915

BA Rudd, RL Hardy, J Peel, R Ashton, JB Scott, JB Matthews, CM Chaundler, A Popkiss, GM Little, L Ayres, C Breeden, GAP Thomas, WL Plew, EJ Phillips, P Konschel, HY Owen, JW Mayne, G Urquhart, GW Hay, W Little, AL Brown, A Faulkner, R Allan, M Doyle (seated fourth from left), H Stephenson, SS Cartwright, AH Minter, GF Baren, R Hamilton, B Allan, HF Cooke, HP Salmon, W Marshall, I Phillips, CH Curran, HP Dixon, F(E?) W Riddle, Pal Foster, C Dawson, DT Lewis

Individual Rhodesians served with more than a hundred of the British Army units deployed in Western Europe. Many were attached to South African Infantry Regiments, while others enlisted in groups with battalions of the Kings Royal Rifle Corps (KRRC), forming what were referred to as Rhodesian Platoons, numbering approximately sixty men. One such group, pictured above, left South Africa on board a Union Castle passenger ship, the *Walmer Castle*, in late 1915. What is of particular interest is the generally mature age of the men in this photograph; Martin Doyle was 29 years old at the time of his enlistment with the KRRC on 17 November 1915. By 1915, Rhodesian recruits had already become associated with the 2nd Bn KRRC, which had its own "Rhodesian Platoon." Training took place at the Corps' depot at Sheerness in Kent. In January 1916, R/16943 Rfn Martin Doyle, as a member of the Rhodesian Platoon, 2KRRC, arrived in Dunkirk on the French Coast. The Battalion was one of four which formed the 2nd Brigade, 1st Division, responsible for holding the Loos Sector between Laventie and Vimy.

The horrors of the Western Front trenches became a nightmare for the Rhodesians, including those 2RR veterans who had survived the hardships and disease of East Africa. Just prior to Doyle's arrival in The Triangle that symbolised the Loos, in September 1915 there were 61 000 casualties in just one battle, including 7 760 killed. This futile loss of life was a tragic and costly price paid for almost no military gain. A cousin of Winston Churchill and a Captain in the Rifles Brigade, Norman Leslie, wondered if the only way to victory had to be the stalemate and slaughter of trench warfare and felt there had to be an alternative to "chewing barbed wire in Flanders." By the end of that year, an unbroken line of trenches snaked from the North Sea to the Swiss border, mile upon mile of ravaged farm and wood that had seen the death of tens of thousands of soldiers. But since the start of 1915, the line had hardly changed.

During this time, Rhodesian strengths were largely depleted, but a continuous flow of volunteers from home soon swelled numbers up to a level allowing for the formation of two platoons, one being deployed to Salonika in Greece with 3KRRC. But by the beginning of 1917, Lt AH Minter, who also appears in the *Walmer Castle* group photo above, reported that his platoon had been reduced to 26 men. In mid-1916, in the build-up to the Allied offensive on the Somme, the Rhodesian Platoon with 2 KRRC suffered huge losses at Fosse and Wood Lane, reducing its strength to less than twenty. However, fresh recruits continued to arrive, and on the eve of the major offensive on the Somme, the Rhodesian Platoon numbered ninety. At the end of the following day, only ten of these men were alive and unwounded. More than 19 000 British troops were killed on that one day.



Cap Badge of the King's Royal Rifle Corps, very similar to that of the Rhodesia Regiment, including the red backing

Fortuitously, Doyle, now promoted to Lance Corporal, was convalescing in a London Hospital when his comrades went over the top at The Somme on 1 July 1916. In a selfless act, Doyle had picked up a German trench mortar which had landed amongst a group of wounded soldiers, but as he lobbed the bomb it exploded, resulting in the loss of his hand. For his bravery, he was awarded the Distinguished Conduct Medal, one of only 69 awarded to the 5716 white Rhodesians who fought in Europe. Doyle was consequently retired from the army in March 1917, on a pension of 25/- a week. Three years later, records from US Immigration on Ellis Island in New York reveal that Doyle had arrived in the USA, on board the SS Olympic, twin sister steamer to the Titanic. He died in Hartford, Connecticut, on 29 March 1932.

The historic threads of these Rhodesians in Europe during WWI are almost lost amongst the hundreds of memorials that are scattered throughout the battlefields of France and Belgium. The Menin Gate Memorial at Ypres carries the names of 54338 British and Commonwealth soldiers killed in the Ypres Salient, and whose bodies were never found. Included in this tragically mind-boggling figure of fallen with no known graves, are five 2nd Bn Rhodesia Regiment German East Africa veterans; Sergeant Sydney Hubie and Privates Andries Ackermann, Hubert Gowing, John Kelleher and Raleigh Wright. All were serving with the 1st and 2nd South African Infantry Regiments at the time. The Pozieres Memorial lists 14300 British and South African soldiers with no known graves, killed during the Battle of the Somme. Included are a further six ex-2RR men; CSM William Ross, Sgt William Mclver, Cpl Alexander Powrie and Privates Harry Gould, Arnold Goudie, and John Shakeshaft.



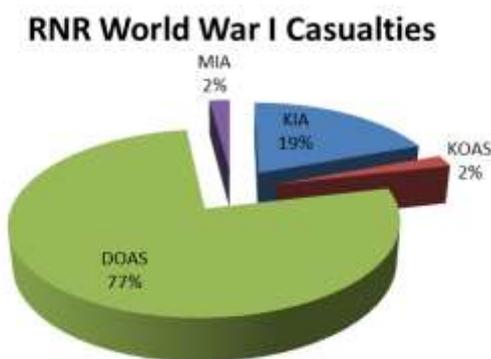
The first of the so-called Rhodesian Platoons; 16 Pln., D Coy, 3rd Battalion Kings Royal Rifle Corps, pictured before deployment to France in December 1914. Only twelve survived.

What, of course, is also easily forgotten is the devastation caused by the so-called Spanish Flu pandemic, which struck from January 1918 through to the end of 1920. No corner of the globe escaped this malady, with an estimated

27% of the world's population becoming infected over this period. Although accurate figures were therefore difficult to estimate, it is reckoned that at least 50 million died (and perhaps as high as 130 million) from influenza complications, such as pneumonia.

I am currently working on the Roll of Honour for the Rhodesia Native Regiment, the First World War fore-runner of the Rhodesian African Rifles. The RNR, like its successor, was an African regiment led by white officers and NCOs drawn from the BSAP, the disbanded Rhodesia Regiment battalions and the Native Affairs Department. Tragically, as the chart reveals very graphically, the RNR battalions serving in Nyasaland, Portuguese East Africa and German East Africa, lost enormous numbers of troops to pneumonia in 1918. A staggering 77% of deaths were due to illness and disease, almost entirely from influenza-related pneumonia.

They remain where they died, in cemeteries in modern day Malawi, Mozambique and Tanzania, and are remembered on the Harare Memorial in the Pioneer Cemetery.



DOAS: Died on Active Service; KIA: Killed in Action; KOAS: Killed on Active Service; MIA: Missing in Action

Know the Medal

The President's Medal for Shooting was awarded to the champion shot of the Rhodesian Security Forces. A round silver medal, 36mm in diameter, the obverse carries a charming relief of a kneeling Pioneer trooper holding an early version of the .303, either a Lee Metford or a Lee Enfield. A campfire, balancing granite boulders, and a Msasa tree complete the image. The reverse carries a relief of crossed rifles, an SMLE .303 and an FN, over an early bandolier. The clasps are worn to show the date of the award as well as for any subsequent ones.



The President's Medal for Shooting

First awarded in December 1972, the war proved too disruptive to allow regular "shoot-outs," with the consequence that there were only five recipients, three of them winning the medal twice each, including the inimitable Field Reservist Wrex Tarr (1978 and 1979), that master of Chilapalapa. The others were Staff Sergeant GR James in 1972 and 1974, and Chief Superintendent DG Toddun in 1972 and 1979. Sergeant J Lamprecht won the prestigious award in 1974 and Lieutenant PA Miller in 1975.

Above and Beyond

The Government Gazette of 20 June 1975 announced the award of the Police Cross for Conspicuous Gallantry to BSAP Constable Columbus Kampaundi. This top police award, level in precedence with the Silver Cross of Rhodesia, was only awarded five times, Constable Kampaundi's being the very first.

On 11 February 1975, a Rhino-led convoy was ambushed twelve kilometres from Rusambo base, Op Hurricane, by a well-armed group of terrorists. An RPG-7 rocket struck the Rhino mine-protected vehicle, badly injuring the occupants. A battered and bruised Cst Kampaundi, immediately realising the dangerous situation they were in,

retaliated with his own rifle as the terrorists let loose a barrage of small-arms fire at the stricken Rhino. Having repelled three terrorists by his actions, Cst Kampaundi extricated himself from his seat and succeeded in repulsing a second advance by five terrorists. After taking up a defensive position and keeping their assailants down through controlled firing, he was ordered to return to Rusambo to seek assistance. This he did alone, and without question, taking an hour and a half to run through bush where a terrorist presence was known.



The Police Cross for Conspicuous Gallantry (P.C.G.)

His actions throughout showed courage and conspicuous gallantry of the highest order, as his brave efforts at the ambush scene and going for help undoubtedly saved the lives of all those in the Rhino.

A Snapshot in Time

Well worked out, Nick Baalbergen. Yes, that is DC Mt Darwin Malcolm Pratt standing next to President Clifford Dupont. This photo, taken in Mt Darwin in August 1973, has proved a real challenge, as some still remain unidentified, but certainly a who's who of top Rhodesian military and civil personnel:

Back row L-R: Insp Don Peters, ADC to the President; U/K; Lt Col Rob Southey, RLI; Malcolm Pratt, DC Mt Darwin; Commissioner Sydney Bristow, BSAP; Clifford Dupont, President of Rhodesia; Lt Gen Peter Walls, GOC Rhodesian Security Forces; Ch Supt Eric Saul, BSAP; Air Vice Marshall Mick McLaren, RhAF.

Front row L-R: Flt Lt John Matthews, VR RhAF; U/K RhAF pilot, likely co-pilot of Dupont's VIP Dakota; Winston Hart of Special Branch, BSAP; U/K; Brig Peter Rich; U/K SADF officer; U/K Captain with the Rhodesian Army Medical Corps (doctor?); Pilot Giles Porter of the RhAF.

Can anyone identify any of the "unknowns?"

This month's Snapshot is packed with some very interesting detail, so study well and let me or Hugh have your views as to who, what, where and when. My e-mail address is g.van-tonder@sky.com



At the Going Down of the Sun

On 4 June 1979, elements of 1 Commando, the Rhodesian Light Infantry, had struck across the Mozambique border to attack a ZANLA/FRELIMO camp. With Kotwa in Mudzi TTL as an admin and forward base, the force embarked on Op Chamber, an operation to conduct an assault on Chivinga, north of the Luia River in Mozambique's Tete Province. Three members of the Commando paid with their lives in this hard-fought attempt to keep insurgents away from the country's north eastern border.

We remember...



728892 Tpr Christopher Francis Lang

726466 L/Cpl Ewart Francois Nel

123360 Cpl Peter Oliver Rice



Across the Globe

- On 25 June 1876, Gen Custer and 600 men of the 7th Cavalry are killed at Little Big Horn.
- On 6 June 1944, Operation Overlord sees a massive launch of Allied troops into Europe.
- On 12 June 1964, Nelson Mandela is jailed for life.

And.....on 26 June 1979, Heavyweight boxer Muhammad Ali hangs up his gloves for the last time.

Editor's Note:

At the end of last month's column there was an image of an RAR badge with an embedded link. There were some technical issues that stopped some readers from hearing the sound clip that the link led to. I have made some changes so if you couldn't hear the sound clip you can go into our Archives, open the May 2012 issue and revisit the article. Hopefully I have resolved the problem.

What's On In New Zealand

AUCKLAND

If you reside in the Auckland area please email Wolf and Alison Hucke at whucke@slingshot.co.nz for more details of the monthly social meetings, generally based around the Hobsonville RSA. All are most welcome.

TAURANGA

The Garrison Club, which is run by the 6th Battalion Hauraki Group Regimental Association, is open every Friday from 16:00 hrs and welcomes visitors. 'Graze and Movie Evenings' run by members of the Rhodesian Services Assn. are normally held on the 2nd Friday of every month with proceeds being donated to the Hauraki Museum. Email me at hbomford@clear.net.nz to get on that mailing list, to see what is on and notification of any changes. Other local events are also advertised via email. The next Movie and Graze evening is 8th June 2012.

October RV – Labour Weekend 19th – 21st October 2012

Mark this on your calendar and book accommodation early.

CQ Store

Visit www.rhodesianservices.org/The%20Shop.htm to see what is in store for you. Please give our CQ Store consideration when buying a present for friends or family. Profits from the sale of these items go towards the Museum Fund.

All prices are in NZ\$ and do not include postage.

To order:

Email thecqstore@rhodesianservices.org with your requirements. We will get it weighed and priced and get back to you with a total.

Payment

NZ customers can pay by direct deposit with bank details being supplied on request

Overseas customers - we prefer payment by PayPal, personal or bank cheque. We can accept personal cheques from most countries with the exception of South Africa. If you elect payment by PayPal, we will bill you from thecqstore@rhodesianservices.org Please note that we can only process credit cards via PayPal. We do not accept postal orders or Western Union transfers. Rest assured, if you want to make a purchase we will make a plan to enable you to pay!



[Clothing](#) - shirts, jackets, caps, beanies, aprons, and regimental ties.



[Berets & Badges](#) – most Rhodesian units available.



[Medals & Ribbons](#) – an extensive range available.



[Posters & Maps](#) – high quality reproductions.



[DVDs & Phone tones](#) – historical footage, unique cell phone tones.



[Other goods](#) - flags, bumper stickers, lighters, and more, as well as quality products direct from our contributing supporters.

Here is this month's recommendation from our huge range of products:



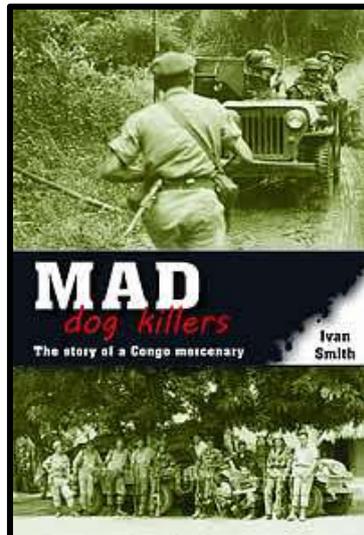
Lapel Pin Remembrance Poppy
\$10 or for it gift boxed as show above \$20 plus postage

Books for Africa

I again remind you that all the books and audio visual disks that I stock and sell are listed at www.rhodesianservices.org/Books.htm These sales are my own hobby and income from sales is directed to me and not the Rhodesian Services Association. However, the Association does benefit indirectly from these sales. A great selection of books, many with a Rhodesian connection, can be found on the link above. All prices are in NZ\$ and do not include postage.

This month's recommended buys:

Mad Dog Killers - The Story of a Congo Mercenary by Ivan Smith (s/b) 160 pages, 234 x 156mm, 40 b/w photos
Price NZ\$30 plus P&P

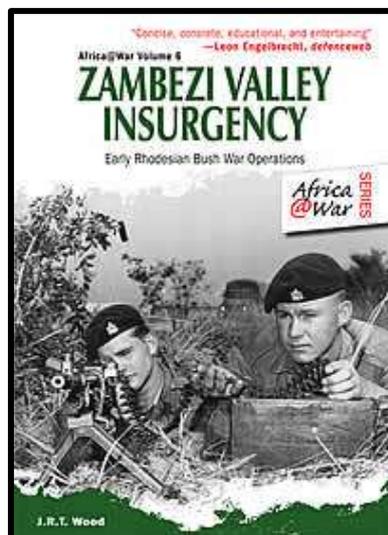


During that long, hot summer of 1964, Ivan Smith, a mercenary volunteer in the Armée Nationale Congolais, came to witness and understand fear, the law of the jungle and the lust for killing that permeates Africa. A member of Mad Mike Hoare's 5 Commando Group, he and his companions were nominally soldiers, but there was little in the way of campaigns, tactics or discipline. Of conventional warfare there was none. Loyalty to country or unit did not exist and the fear of death was the only commander. Many more mercenaries died from an accidental discharge, in a drunken shoot-out, or from a bullet in the back, than were ever killed in action by Simba rebels. Nearly half a century later, Ivan Smith re-lives the nightmare that was the Congo.

Ivan Smith, author of Mad Dog Killers was born in Fort Victoria, Rhodesia. In 1964 he signed up for a six-month contract as a mercenary in the Congo. A lover of hunting and fishing, he has written for various outdoor magazines for over forty years.

Africa@War Volume 5 - Zambezi Valley Insurgency Early Rhodesian Bush War Operations by Richard Wood (s/b)

Price NZ\$30 plus P&P



Across Africa in the post-1956 era, the aspirations of African nationalists to secure power were boosted and quickly realized by the British, French and Belgian hasty retreat from empire. The Portuguese, Southern Rhodesian and South African governments, however, stood firm. Influenced by the Communist bloc, these nationalists adopted the Armed Struggle. In the case of Rhodesia, the Zimbabwe African Peoples Union (ZAPU), led by Joshua Nkomo, took this step in 1962 after their effort to foment rebellion in Rhodesia's urban areas in 1961-62 had been frustrated by police action and stiffened security legislation. Rhodesia's small, undermanned security forces, however, remained wary as Zambia and Tanganyika had given sanctuary to communist-supplied ZAPU and Zimbabwe African National Union (ZANU) guerrillas.

Richard Wood BA (Hons) (Rhodes), PhD (Edinburgh), FRHistS, author of Zambezi Valley Insurgency, is a renowned military historian, having served as a territorial soldier in the Rhodesia Regiment, and the Mapping and Research Unit of the Rhodesian Intelligence Corps. He is also author of The War Diaries of Andre Dennison (1989), Counter-Strike from the Sky: The Rhodesian All-Arms Fireforce in the War in the Bush, 1974-1980 (2009) and Operation Dingo: Rhodesian Raid on Chimoio and Tembué, 1977 (2010).

The Africa@War Series is a ground-breaking series of studies of Africa's post 1945 conflicts and military players presented in an informative and entertaining manner. The series examines some of the lesser known campaigns and sheds new light on some of the better known operations. Please visit our website at

www.rhodesianservices.org/Books.htm for details of the first four books in this series covering:

- Volume 1 Operation Dingo - Rhodesian Raid on Chimoio and Tembué 1977
- Volume 2 France In Centrafrique - From Bokassa and Operation Barracuda to the Days of EUFOR
- Volume 3 Battle For Cassinga - South Africa's Controversial Cross-Boarder Raid, Angola 1978
- Volume 4 Selous Scouts - Rhodesian Counter-Insurgency Specialists



The Rhodesia Regiment Book Project



This project is on the path to publication in 2013. We require information on the following:

- ❖ National Service Intake numbers, dates and details – please email Gerry van Tonder at g.van-tonder@sky.com with details. See the list below of intakes that we have no information on.
- ❖ We have some conflicting information relating to Intakes 120 to 125. Please can anyone from those intakes, who has not already contacted Gerry van Tonder do so urgently on email g.van-tonder@sky.com
- ❖ Leadership details – CO, 2I/C and RSM of all Battalions; OC, 2I/C and CSM of all Independent Companies up to 1978 - please email Gerry van Tonder at g.van-tonder@sky.com with details.
- ❖ We require someone skilled on Google Earth to extract and mark some maps for us. Please email hbomford@clear.net.nz if you have the time (labour of love) and skill.
- ❖ We require information on the 1 RR and 2 RR pipe bands. A principal question is what tartan they wore. Please email hbomford@clear.net.nz
- ❖ We require photos and details of rifle grenades and hand grenades used in the 1970's. Email hbomford@clear.net.nz

Details required for the following intakes:

18	38	62	100
20	40	63	101
21	44	67	103
23	45	68	104
25	46	72	110
26	47	74	117
28	50	75	118
29	51	76	127
30	52	78	135
31	53	80	148
32	54	83	166
35	57	85	
36	58	86	
37	61	90	

Our Supporters – please also view our webpage <http://www.rhodesianservices.org/our-supporters.htm>

This section is for individuals and businesses who support this Association either by giving us something for auction at the RV in October; by donations from sales generated from our listings of their product or service; by offering discount to buyers who mention the Rhodesian Services Association when making a purchase; contributing material to our Museum and Archives.

Email me at theeditor@rhodesianservices.org for details of how you get a mention here.

The Association is very grateful to all our contributors, please reciprocate this support by supporting them in turn. Please don't forget to mention where you saw their advert.

Roan Antelope Music special for June 2012

Dear Friends, Rhodies and Countrymen

This month is "Teach the Children Month" at Roan Antelope Music. Whether you have been to Africa or not or wherever you live in the world, you will never match the magic of the African bush - her sounds, sights and smells! What better way to live or re-live the magic than to at least hear some sounds and some campfire stories and songs to take you back.

This month Roan Antelope Music are offering a fantastic special on our famous "Tales Of The Game Rangers" series (Vol.1 - 4) at a hugely reduced rate. These four different CD's contain stories narrated by Game Scout Tongorora and songs sung by John Edmond. While Tongorora tells his informative and entertaining campfire tales you can hear the background sounds of Africa. The tinker barbets, weavers, frogs, doves, hornbills, and crickets. There are over forty five different animal and bird calls. All very educational to get our kids "Bush Wise"

This series has had wide acclaim all over the world and Vol.1 - 3 are now available in Afrikaans entitled "Stories En Liedjies Van Die Wildtuin" Vol. 1 and 2 by Gert van Tonder and Vol. 3 is fresh off the press by John Ross Edmond.

"Tales Of The Game Rangers" series are a joy to listen to and are wonderfully educational for children and adults alike. Dinah Lovelett wrote *"The road from Johannesburg to Cape Town was made much shorter with the joy of having "Tales Of The Game Rangers" in the car"*. Billy Donovan in Canada said *"As a child I had "Tales of the Game Rangers" tapes and as an adult I now have them on CD and never tire of listening to them"*

ORDER NOW! Special runs 1 June - 30 June 2012, in time for school holidays and that UK summer break. By the way, for all you Rhodesians out there that want to keep the Flame alive, we strongly suggest you subscribe to the Rhodesians Worldwide magazine. Their subs are negligible and you get a great quarterly magazine, keeping you in the loop with all Rhodie affairs, contacts, articles, photos etc. Contact Chris Whitehead at rhodesia@rhodesia.org Don't delay. Without your participation the Flame will flicker - do it!

Price:

RSA R100 postage included. For overseas orders add the following for post and pack to:
UK + R85 USA + R85 AUS + R95 NZ +R95

To order go to:

Roan Antelope Music www.johnedmond.co.za

Email: info@johnedmond.co.za

Tel: +27 (0)14 735 0774 / +27 (0)71 699 0362 Fax: +27 (0)86 273 5492

Buckles and Tees www.bucklesandtees.co.nz

Mike Vivier has a number of Rhodesian related lines which include the 'Advice to Terrorists' image on t-shirts and aprons as well this stunning Rhodesia Regiment belt buckle which sells for NZ\$24.95 excluding postage. 100% New Zealand made.



Mike donates a portion of his income from all Rhodesian related items sold to the Rhodesian Services Association. Please email Mike at mike_jovivier@xtra.co.nz with your order or query or go to www.bucklesandtees.co.nz and do it on-line.

30 Degrees South Publishing (UK) www.30degreessouth.co.uk

Steve Crump is offering us one of their RLI MAG Gunner figurines that we will auction off at the RV in October. We need someone who is travelling between England and New Zealand to bring it over for us so as to avoid breakage and postage costs. Please contact Steve at steve@30degreessouth.co.uk if you can assist.

30 Degrees South Publishing (UK) have a huge stock of goods and books for sale. Go on line and see what they have.

The Global Forked Stick - Snippets and Requests

William Henry Connor – Killed on active service (landmine) with the BSAP 24th September 1978

His daughter Mandy writes:

"My Dad was born on 8 June 1933 in Benoni, South Africa. He moved to Rhodesia in May 1960. He worked at Legal and General. He is recorded to have joined the BSAP on 14 May 1977. His force number was 308276. He was killed in the Nuanetsi area when he hit a landmine on 24 September 1978 near the farm that he was guarding at the time.

*The photo's I have of him show him in Nyamapora in April 1977. On the one photo there are two other men with my Dad whose names are **Jerry Dodds** and **Andrew Phillips***

My Dad also had other little businesses on the side namely employing guys who used to wheel trolleys around the neighbour hoods selling Cokes etc. He was also involved in some company that manufactured stickers and he also came up with a game that is now called Quizzle.

This is an from updated entry in Rhodesian Combined Forces Roll of Honour 1966-1981 by Adrian Haggett and Gerry van Tonder:

Killed when the vehicle they were travelling in on a farm they were protecting struck a landmine, aged 45 years. In civilian life, Bill saw long and dedicated service with the Legal and General Insurance Company. Stationed with the reserve in Salisbury, he was remembered by regulars and reservists as a popular, conscientious, hard-working and devoted member of the unit, always willing to turn out for duty at short notice. His private funeral was held at Warren Hills Cemetery, Salisbury, on 28 September 1978. Source: Bill's daughter, Mandy Connor Watts; Wayne Kennerley from Outpost.

I would appreciate anyone contacting me who knew him or served with him."

Please email Mandy Watts on mandymarywatts@gmail.com if you can help

Ivan Croxford

This from his son Richard:

"I am looking for any photographs/footage or information about my father - Ivan Croxford who was from Gatooma. He served in 1 Commando RLI in the mid to late 1970's."

Please email Richard on croxfordr@gmail.com

From Neill Jackson co-author of The Search for Puma 164:

"Further to my recent communications with the nephews of David Rex Prosser, yesterday Sunday 06 May, I received the following e-mail:

"I am Alison Crothers, sister of David Prosser killed in action on 6 September 1979 in Operation Uric. My late sister's husband contacted me on Friday evening to tell us that David's remains had been located and interred after the crash and that someone was trying to contact us. My son Dean Adlard found information on the website that indicated that you had been in touch with Richard Halford (Biddy's son) and that he informed you that I lived in Australia.

I am thrilled to have heard all of this and have been researching all of the information I could about the events surrounding Operation Uric and the subsequent search.

*Thank you
Alison"*

I am currently in contact with Alison and have given her all of the details that she requested regarding Op Uric, the loss of Puma 164 and the search for the crash site and the next of kin. She has indicated that the family would like to visit the crash site next year to pay their last respects and we will obviously help them in any way we can.

We are most grateful to everyone who has assisted with our quest to locate all of the next of kin of the Puma crash victims and we are delighted to be able to finally close this chapter of the story.

Rick and I are returning to Mapai in the first week of July and taking twenty eight of the family members back to the crash site. This promises to be an extremely emotional event and we will send out a report on our return.

Thank you all for your support and encouragement.

Best regards,

Neill

Puma 164 Wreath Laying

From Adrian Haggett:

“The Puma search team found the widow of Mick Jones, Anne, in early January this year. When the Engineers discovered that Anne was visiting South Africa, from the UK, Peter Gleeson organized a wreath laying ceremony, on Sunday 15th April, at the Wall of Remembrance next to the Voortrekker Monument in Pretoria.

Neill had asked me to make a short speech at the ceremony, on behalf of the search team, where I was able to inform the gathering of the discovery of Alison Crothers. Editor’s Note – see report from Neill Jackson above.

The service took place in the quaint chapel atop the hill, delivered by Alf Herbst (Rhodesian Corps of Engineers), followed by a very emotional wreath laying. Tears aside, it was a magnificent occasion. Members of 1 Commando RLI made their presence known with a good turnout, whilst several members of the Engineers and other units were also there. What was special was the attendance of a former RAR Sgt Maj. Bigboy Moyo.

Alan Strachan and Vic Hydes performed a very smart wreath laying in typical military style. Anne and her husband then laid a wreath each, followed by others.”



Names of those above from left to right:

Adrian Haggett (1POU), Anne Watkins (Jones) and her husband Frank, behind Frank is Dave Russel (RLI), Terry Tribe (RHE), in front of Terry is Gary Huxham (RLI), behind Gary is Alan Strachan (RLI), in front of Alan is Len Beechy (RLI), behind Len is Keith Nel (SAS), Peter Gleeson (RHE), Vic Hydes (RHE), Alf Herbst (RHE), Bigboy Moyo (RAR), Ralph Hampson (RHE), Mike Boyd-Monk (RHE), seated in front of Mike Mr Doughty (Carol's father), in front, on their haunches is Anton de Montino (RHE) and Ronnie Bell.

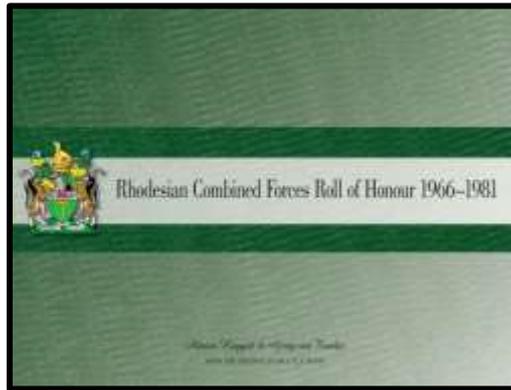
The photo above is from www.puma164ceremony.com where more photos of the event can be viewed.

Work Opportunity - Hawkes Bay area of New Zealand

There is an opportunity for someone reliable to make a few extra dollars in the Hawkes Bay area of New Zealand. The work involves collection of used air filters and returning them to the customer once they have been cleaned by the factory in Auckland. Having use of a van, large station wagon, ute or trailer would be necessary.

Please contact Hennie Schoeman by email barsonwheels@xtra.co.nz or mob 021 079 1515 for more details.

Rhodesian Combined Forces Roll of Honour 1966-1981 donation to ZPSF.



Gerry van Tonder writes:

“As you know, Adrian and I recently published a very detailed and comprehensive Rhodesian Combined Forces Roll of Honour. Right from the start we made a conscious decision that any royalties from the sales of the book would go to a worthy Zimbabwe pensioners’ cause; we would not receive a single penny out of the project.

I regularly read the reports of the excellent work being done by Pastor Attie Botha and his team to assist the old folk who have become economic prisoners in Zimbabwe. Many are destitute and rely on the work of the ZPSF for even just the basics to sustain life. As a consequence of this, I put it to Adrian, my co-author (and partner in crime!) that consideration be given to the ZPSF as the recipient of our royalties. Needless to say, there was no hesitation on his behalf, and this last week the first deposit was made by our publisher (Chris Cocks of 30 Degrees South) into the ZPSF bank account. The amounts will never be large, but Adrian and I derive great pleasure from knowing that we are able to give something back.

I received this email from ZPSF:

“Dear Gerry,

I was contacted by 30 Degrees South Publishers who are handling the affairs concerning your book co-authored with Adrian Haggett. We were informed that the two of you have pledged that the royalties of your book be given to Zimbabwe Pensioners Support Fund.

This is so awesome and we as a fund want to thank you for this most generous gesture and words we don't have to express our sincere appreciation and gratitude. We speak God's blessing and favour upon you and Adrian and on the sales of this book.

I have attached some information about us, and invite you to visit our webpage www.zimpen.co.za to find out of more what we do.

Kind regards,

Pastor Attie Botha for ZPSF”

Editor's Note: This excellent book can be purchased from www.30degreessouth.co.za The book is also in stock in New Zealand for local and Australian distribution, email hbomford@clear.net.nz for details.

Croc kills Rescuer - Lake Kariba

From Bob Hayward:

“I well remember doing some fishing in the 60's at Charara. I also recall seeing some huge monsters with the TF in November 1970 when we were engaged in boat patrols on Border Control Ops on the Zambezi below the dam wall.

Extract from www.timeslive.co.za

The National Anglers' Union said that Frank Trott, aged in his seventies, died after trying to rescue a friend paddling along the shoreline at Charara fishing camp. His friend survived but sustained wounds to his midsection and buttocks.

Two crocodiles were shot dead by wildlife rangers after last week's attack. The dead man was dragged away by a giant crocodile after going to assist his friend, said Mike Brennan, head of the fishing group. Brennan said the two had returned from a day outing Thursday on the lake for dinner and drinks at the fishing camp. The friend, aged in his forties and a fellow farmer with experience in the African wilderness, was treated for his wounds. The survivor's wounds suggested he had been wading waist-deep in the lake when the crocodile attacked late in the evening. Trott was seized by a second large crocodile resting in long grass when he raced into the water to answer his friend's cries for help.

The surroundings of Lake Kariba, a man-made hydroelectric dam about 300 kilometers (180 miles) long, are a major leisure resort for fishing, boating and sightseeing for wildlife, the habitat of crocodiles and hippos.

Brennan said a memorial service for Trott is scheduled Friday. He said it was the second dramatic crocodile attack within the past month. "Please, everyone be warned to be vigilant near the water's edge at all times," he said. "It is dangerous no matter where you are on the lake." "

Stolen Medals

Please see our page <http://www.rhodesianservices.org/stolen-medals.htm>

A recent theft has been added:

Andy Pearce - Rhodesian General Service Medal 109782 GNR A. PEARCE; Zimbabwe Independence Medal. Both medals were still in packets with no ribbons. Stolen from his house in Hastings, New Zealand May 2012.

Also stolen were a gold bracelet charm in the figure of the Zimbabwe bird, a gold charm in the form of a South African Ox wagon and a silver fob watch - no recognizable marks.

Email Andy at warringtonestate@hotmail.com if you can help.

Ex Servicemen and Women required as extras for a film production in Cape Town area

From Tony McLaughlin:

"I am currently working on a short film on Rhodesia. In the one scene I am creating a fictitious book launch and need a number of extras.

In addition I am looking for any original footage that may fit with my project."

Please email Tony on mclaughlin.anthony4@gmail.com

Until next time – go well

Cheers

Hugh



Celebrate 'Rhodesia Day'* on the 11th November each year



*The concept of 'Rhodesia Day' originates from Eddy Norris and family. During the 90 year life span of Rhodesia we experienced the best of times and the worst of times. I encourage everyone to use this day to remember the good times as well as remembering those who are no longer with us.

Rhodesian Services Association donations.

You can make a donation to the Rhodesian Services Association by clicking on our 'Collection Hat' below which is a typical slouch hat of the type used by the Rhodesian Army up until the 1960's. Click on the hat or this link:

https://www.paypal.com/cgi-bin/webscr?cmd=_s-xclick&hosted_button_id=MLMB2B8Y2UY3G

and if you are registered with PayPal the process will be immediate. If you are not a PayPal member you will be given instruction on how to make a credit card payment via PayPal. Thank you - every bit helps.



This newsletter is compiled by Hugh Bomford, Newsletter Editor of the Rhodesian Services Association. It contains many personal views and comments which may not always be the views of the Association or Committee.

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