



Rhodesian Services Association August 2006

PO Box 13003, Tauranga 3141, New Zealand.

Web: www.rhodesianservices.org

Greetings

The October RV is looming (19-21 October) and I can report that registrations are progressing nicely. The info packs will start to be sent out this coming week once we get the first batch of lapel badges in.

It is really pleasing to see is the number of people ordering lapel pins signifying the previous years that they attended. Also very pleasing to see is the number of people advising they will be attending the AGM. A staggering 100% of the ticket orders so far will be at the AGM. Great stuff. In future I will be referring to the AGM as the 'Debrief' - after all we will have all met at the RV so it is only natural that we have a Debrief the following day. For those who have not attended our previous AGMs there is nothing to be sacred of, it is very informal. Principally we are looking to inform you of what has happened during the year and look for any suggestions for our future. The Debrief is at the Classic Flyers Museum and breakfast will be part of proceedings

Please keep the registrations rolling in. If you need help with the registration form let me know.

Mike Payne

Mike passed away on 19th August at his Morrinsville home. Our sincere condolences to his family. Mike served with the SAS in Rhodesia.

RV Auction

The auction and the raffle are our main fundraisers each year. From the money raised we develop the museum displays. In the past we have had a diverse selection of goods to auction. We have decided that we will limit the donated goods to those which have a direct relationship to Rhodesia or Zimbabwe. We have a number of items so far but we need some more. Please contact Paul Nes on 09 537 4302 or 0274 417235 or paulnes@xtra.co.nz if you have something to donate.

We would like to have some Zimbabwe bank notes to auction.

This year we have a change of auctioneer. Steve Geach, who has been a great supporter of the auction in the past (to the debit of his bank account and to the credit of his wife's patience!) will be taking it on the job this year. Keith Kietzmann has been the auctioneer from the beginning. Keith has been instrumental in raising a lot of money for the association. From us all - "thanks Keith." Now with Geach safely out of the bidding it is up to the rest of you to make up for his free spending - Keith I have seen you in action at auctions before - lets hope we see your hand bobbing up and down like a fiddler's elbow pushing the prices up!!

The raffle this year will include a cricket jersey autographed by Heath Streak. Dennis Croukamp has donated one of his books entitled 'Only My Friends Call Me Crouks' detailing his life and in particular his time spent serving in the RLI and Selous Scouts which will also be up for grabs. If you cannot make it to the RV you can order a copy of direct from this website

www.crouks.co.za This is a sample - be at the RV to see the rest of what we have in store for you.

Number Plate Surrounds

Some of you may have seen the bumper stickers which are made to the colours of medal ribbons. Most are Vietnam Veteran's Association ones. Some are just ribbons, others have "Vietnam - I served" printed on as well. With this in mind we thought that a number plate surround would be a good idea. We envisage producing 2 plates; one will have the RGSM ribbon colours and the other will have both the RGSM and the Zimbabwe Independence Medal ribbons.

We intend to include a phrase on each plate. As yet we are not set on what phrase - "Rhodesia - I served" is top of the list as well as simply "I served".

We are open to ideas as well as an indication of what interest there is out there. Please let me know what you think. Would you buy one?

Price at this stage, excluding postage, will be \$12 - \$15 each.

The object of the number plate surrounds is as a recognition for other people who know what the colours of the medal ribbons signify. Just like the Association uses the Lion & Tusk. Anyone seeing the Lion & Tusk knows it is one of the oldest emblems of Rhodesia and therefore the wearer has some affiliation to Rhodesia.

Let's have some input on this one

Rhodesian Services Association Apparel

We are increasing the selection of apparel that we will stock. We will soon be stocking caps. They will be black with a gold band in the peak with the Lion & Tusk on the front. You can also have your regimental number or your name on the back. Price will be \$20 with the Lion & Tusk only or \$25 with your number or name on the back.

We will be also stocking women's t-shirts and polo shirts. Our supplier will be able to offer t-shirts in kids sizes if required. The unisex and women's t-shirt price will remain the same (\$30 for most sizes). The polo shirt price is yet to be decided

Auckland Relief Fund Golf Tournament

I gather this was a great success with many thousands of dollars being raised to help support the elderly in Zimbabwe - well done to the organisers. I look forward to seeing you guys register for the pre RV golf tournament.

Rhodesian Army Association Christmas Cards

The Rhodesian Army Assn is based in the UK. They produce an excellent newsletter. They also have Christmas Cards for sale. For more information and/or to join the Rhodesian Army Assn please email Iain Harper iain@umgusa.fsnet.co.uk

Classic Flyers Museum Display

The theme of this project is the Rhodesian Air Force in support of ground troops. We are progressing well on this project and we intend to have a session in the middle of next month

putting the main body of the display together. To date we acknowledge the help we have had from PB Petter-Bowyer, Digby Sinclair, Harmon Cusack and Neil Thain of Msasa Enterprises www.rhodesianvideos.mazoe.com

We still need more input from you Blue jobs. Please contact me if you have any pieces of uniform, equipment etc etc for loan or donation. We are also seeking people with first hand knowledge of the Alpha and Golf bombs.

That is enough from me - let's hear from you. As always if you know someone who is not getting this direct please tell me. As a matter of interest there are over 350 people on my mailing list of which about 100 are overseas.

Until next time

Cheers
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