



Rhodesian Services Association August 2007 Newsletter

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Greetings

Well, yet another month has passed with little to indicate a slowing of things as far as the Rhodesian Services Association goes. Hardly a day goes by when there is not someone new registering for the newsletter or some information coming in.

This newsletter gets a wide coverage. I want to ensure that it is interesting and informative. It is hard work putting it together, not so much getting the material, but just getting it all down in a readable format. I now have John Lomas giving me advice and editing the final draft which will reduce some of my time input and also make a far better quality product.

If anyone wishes to submit any material or write an article or two, please go ahead. I would have done some work on rat packs this month, but time has caught me and it will have to wait until next month. Thanks to Vic and Craig who sent me material on rat packs. If any of you have pictures or comments on rat packs – Rhodesian or others - please let me have it soon as I start the next newsletter as soon as the current one gets sent out.

One subject that someone could have a go at (and they do not have to have been involved in the war) are stories about the animals that were adopted (or who adopted) the various units. Here are some examples:

- The ORAFS have recently done an article on the 'Jebel Cat' which became part of 1 Sqn. history following their service in Aden in the 1950s. It appeared on everything from beer mugs to the door of one of the Commonwealth Monitoring Force C130s. The full story is at <http://www.ourstory.com/thread.html?t=224380#191806>
- 'Harvey', the ground hornbill who resided at FAF (Forward Air Field) 4 at Wankie in 1976/77, together with a monkey which had no official name but was called a lot of things, especially by the tech who caught it trying to start up a G Car.
- 'Pisscat McGinty', a cat of indeterminate parentage who was saved from a fate worse than death by some 4 Indep guys and became a cover fielder of note who would have rivalled Colin Bland.
- 'Dustbin', Colour van Vuuren's dog at 4 Indep who was immortalised on t-shirts.
- The baboon from B Coy 4RR whose testicles were equal to or greater in size than the 1 Sqn Jebel Cat.
- The RAR goat.
- The RLI cheetah.

And so it goes on. I am happy to provide help to anyone who would like to tackle this. I feel sure that someone, perhaps one of the younger generation, could have an interesting time researching this.

Condolences

I only publish a very small number of entries here. If you want more complete information on recent deaths I suggest you subscribe to the Rhodesians World Wide magazine. You can get a free introduction to Rhodesians World Wide if you live in NZ by emailing me or you can email the editor (Chris Whitehead rhodesia@rhodesia.org) to subscribe. At around NZ\$40 a year it is very good value and you will be supporting a publication that has been around for more than 20 years.

Ann Bishop writes about **Neil McNish**:

It is with the saddest heart that I must tell you all that my beloved friend Neil McNish died this morning from a heart attack. He was rushed into hospital 10 days ago with a deep vein thrombosis, and fought for his life until this morning. Two days ago he did a real U turn and was smiling and squeezing Toni's hand, but then this morning he had a massive attack as they were bathing him.

I know a lot of you really loved him too, so be comforted by the fact that yesterday Toni read him an enormous pile of emails, SMS's and other messages from all over the world, so he knew how dearly he was adored.

From the day I started this work seven years ago, no matter how ill or sore Neil was, he was the first one there to help.

During the past years he has had three joint transplants, bike accidents and other illnesses, and yet there was always a smile - lots of mock moans - but always there to help. Never wanted recognition, just wanted to help the Oldies.

Three years ago Neil and his wife Toni moved to a complex where there is a block of really struggling pensioners (64 of them), and every week Neil would make small packets of whatever we had been given, usually fruit, and so sweetly deliver them, have a little chat with the pensioners and try and help wherever he could. An absolute Angel on Earth to us all. One of the ladies christened him McTosh and that stuck.

I just don't know how we are going to manage without him. Toni herself is not well, but is being so brave through it all. They were recently ordained as Lay Ministers, which they took very seriously. Neil of course was always a Christian, I remember sitting next to him at the Presbyterian Church in Umtali on Sunday evenings.

My earliest memories of Neil were on the athletics field at Umtali Boys High. He could run like the wind, and always seemed to have a 'dashing' air about him with his boater a bit squiff. In the SAS I know he personally saved many lives, and was absolutely adored by the staff at 2 Military Hospital here in Cape Town which has been shown by the absolute queue of medical staff coming in to pray with him, or just give him a little kiss on the hand during the past few days.

He was an avid biker until the end, always available to help others with the odd mechanical problems.

Some people die and leave a ripple, but this very special man is leaving behind a Grand Canyon.

I apologise for the grammar, I am just so sad I cannot think straight. Their email address is toneil@telkomsa.net

Lots of love,
Annie

(Extract from ORAFS) Lorraine Joyce writes about **Pete Satterthwaite**:

It is with a heavy heart I must report that Pete passed on to greater glory on Friday morning, 20th July 2007. Pete leaves behind his wife Des-Lynn, David and Gail (son and daughter-in-law) Lynn (daughter) four grand children and his twin brother David. Pete remained strong in spirit though weak in body to his very end and we are grateful his suffering with the illness did not linger into months and years. Pete's wife Des-Lynn, is herself struggling with illness at this time - and we wish her and the entire family our deepest sympathy and good wishes. Folk are welcome to write to the family via our email.

eMail: rhodiejoyce@aol.com

Craig Fourie writes:

A good Rhodesian passed away on the 5th August in the UK after a long illness. **Jake (Earl) Harper Ronald** served in the Parachute Regiment, Rhodesian SAS and the Selous Scouts.

Off the radar

The following people's emails have been returned. If you know them please ask them to contact me with their current address. Your assistance is appreciated.

Roger James
Peter and Sally Burgoyne

If anyone knows how to contact the two Rhodesian teenagers who were both decorated for separate acts of extraordinary bravery, Derrick Hattingh MCM and Jamie Scott CGD, and also Lindsay 'Kiwi' O'Brien PCG, I would like to communicate with them.

Rhodesian's Honoured and Decorated

Sometime in 2000 I became aware that people of my generation who had been awarded medals for their bravery and service in Rhodesia had, in some cases, been forced to hide their medals and citations as they continued to try and live in Zimbabwe. In other cases, they were not being accorded the respect and public acknowledgement that I believe they should have had. Had they been veterans of WWII, attitudes towards them would have been quite different.

I was brought up in an environment where I was reasonably well informed about my forebear's medals going back several generations. These men had achieved the greatest distinction, the list including a Victoria Cross, a Knighthood, a Distinguished Service Order, two Military Crosses, a Distinguished Flying Medal, numerous Mentioned In Dispatches, a Croix de Guerre, and campaign and service medals spanning the globe. I also served with two men in Rhodesia who won the Bronze Cross of Rhodesia and I am immensely proud to have known them. Throughout my life I have drawn inspiration from these people and I think that this should be shared.

In 2001 my father died and it was a very emotional time. This inspired me to do something positive and the October RV in 2002 was the result. We set out to acknowledge the bravery and dedication of our people. It was meant to be a one-off, but it did not stop there and we now have it as an established part of our yearly calendar.

Listed below are the people I know of living in New Zealand (or who have died here) who were decorated for their service to Rhodesia. In addition, there are three men who served in Rhodesia but who were decorated for their service in other countries, they too are acknowledged. In addition to the decorations below all of them have the Rhodesian General Service Medal, some have the Zimbabwe Independence Medal and there are campaign medals from around the globe to be found on their medal groups. If there are any omissions, I apologise. I welcome corrections and would be keen to hear of any additions as it is important that we get the records as accurate as possible.

Peter Bomford (deceased) - Military Cross, Mentioned in Dispatches. Both decorations received during WWII.

Nobby Clarke - Military Forces Commendation (Non Operational), Medal for Territorial or Reserve Service.

Denis Davison - Military Forces Commendation (Operational).

"Mr A" - Independence Commemorative Decoration, Member of the Legion of Merit (Civil).

Steve Geach - Bronze Cross of Rhodesia.

"Mr B" - Member of the Legion of Merit (Military)

Danny Hartman, Medal for Meritorious Service (Civil), Wings on Chest (see notes below).

Bill Jelley - Defense Force Medal for Meritorious Service, Exemplary Service Medal.

Bill Ludeke - Police Decoration for Gallantry.

Red Oldknow - Police Medal for Meritorious Service, Police Long Service Medal.

John Pringle - Exemplary Service Medal

Graeme Trass - Silver Cross of Rhodesia.

The following men served in Rhodesia but received awards for their service in other countries:

Martin Knight-Willis - Military Cross. Decoration received in Vietnam while serving in NZ Forces. Martin served in the Rhodesian SAS.

Wolfgang Hucke - Croix de la Valeur Militaire, Croix du Combattant. Decorations awarded while serving with the French Foreign Legion. Wolf served in the Rhodesian SAS as well as the New Zealand forces.

Brian Neil Phillips - Air Force Cross. Brian served in the Rhodesian Air Force from 1966 - 1976 then in RNZAF from 1977 - 1990 and RNZAF Reserves to 1994. He was awarded the Air Force Cross in 1987 in New Zealand for his dedication to duty flying rescue missions.

Definitions (from a layman's view)

Bronze Cross of Rhodesia - Rhodesia's third highest award for gallantry.

Croix de la Valeur Militaire (Cross of Military Valour) - French award for operational duties.

Croix du Combattant (Combatant's Cross) - French award to veterans who hold the Carte du Combattant (combatant's card).

Defense Force Medal for Meritorious Service - Rhodesian award for meritorious service.

Exemplary Service Medal - Rhodesian award for long and exemplary service in the Armed Forces, awarded after 18 years service.

Independence Commemorative Decoration - Rhodesian award for persons rendering valuable service to Rhodesia.

Medal for Meritorious Service - Rhodesian award for resource and devotion to duty and exemplary voluntary service; Security Forces and Civil distinctions.

Military Cross - British award for gallantry. (Equivalent to the Bronze Cross of Rhodesia).

Military Forces Commendation - Rhodesian award for an act of bravery, distinguished service or continuous devotion to duty; Operational and Non Operational distinctions.

Mentioned in Dispatches - British award for gallantry. Equivalent to the Rhodesian Military Forces Commendation (Operational)

Member of the Legion of Merit - Rhodesian award for distinguished service to Rhodesia; Military and Civil distinctions.

Police Decoration for Gallantry - Rhodesian award for gallantry. (Equivalent to the Bronze Cross of Rhodesia).

Police Long Service Medal - Rhodesian award after 18 years for long and exemplary service.

Police Medal for Meritorious Service - Rhodesian award for meritorious service.

Silver Cross of Rhodesia - Rhodesian's second highest award for conspicuous gallantry.

Wings on Chest (Definition provided by Danny Hartman): This was not a decoration as such and was SAS Regimental recognition only. Going back to the Second World War tradition Wings on Chest could be awarded for a number of reasons but quoting Will Fowler's book, "SAS, Behind Enemy Lines", - "Wings on Chest were awarded to outstanding soldiers" and these were the parameters followed when the award was reintroduced. As stated, there were no specific 'fixed' criteria and could be awarded for a number of reasons e.g. for externals well done / performance in a contact / courage and leadership. When the Rhodesian SAS finally disbanded in 1980 only 70 men had received their 'WOC'"

While gathering this information and the consents to publish these names, one of my correspondents commented that in many cases the award of a medal is a reflection of a group or team effort, and not just the actions of the individual who was decorated.

Since I started to write this piece a number of things have happened to encourage me to make a regular feature of medals and citations in this newsletter. I am not a medal fundi, but I intend to give you a reasonable amount of general knowledge in future newsletters to help you learn a little about the different Rhodesia decorations. I will also share with you citations so that you can better understand the bravery, sacrifices and loyalty displayed by people fighting for Rhodesia. The next article in this newsletter goes back to the birth of Rhodesia, but before that I will start you off with some basics.

The last medal to be issued to Rhodesian forces was the Zimbabwe Independence Medal. It was the first medal in the world to be awarded to both sides of a conflict. Entitlement to this medal requires a recipient to have been serving at the time of the 1980 elections. It is also struck in silver which, as far as I know, was reserved for high ranking officers and dignitaries. It was also issued to all the Commonwealth Monitoring Force personnel who are restricted to wearing it only when there is a Zimbabwean State Visit to their country.



The Rhodesian General Service Medal was instituted in 1968. Entitlement was "For service on operations undertaken for the purposes of combating terrorist or enemy incursions into Rhodesia". It was only issued to Rhodesian forces and not to South African forces in Rhodesia.



Below is the Rhodesian Medal. This medal was for the Monitoring Force. It is most definitely not to be worn by Rhodesian Security Forces. I say this because I have heard that some people have been mistakenly wearing them.



You should be aware that it is illegal to wear medals that you are not entitled to. Wearing medals 'in memorial' on the right breast is perfectly legal and is something commonly seen in New Zealand and Australia on ANZAC Day.

Rhodesian VC Acquired by the National Army Museum, London The information below is extracted from <http://www.victoriacross.org.uk/bbhendeh.htm> Ian Stewart is the author of the website at www.victoriacross.org.uk/aagloss.htm I am indebted to him for his help and advice.

31 July 2007 - The National Army Museum in London has recently acquired the Victoria Cross awarded to Trooper (later Lieutenant) Herbert Henderson, a member of the Rhodesia Horse, South African Forces, part of the Bulawayo Field Force of 1896.

The descendants of Herbert Henderson, Mr. A Henderson and Mr. I Henderson chose to donate their father's Victoria Cross to the National Army Museum to ensure his action remains in the nation's memory. Lieutenant Henderson's granddaughter escorted the Cross personally from South Africa. (The VC is unaccompanied by Henderson's British South Africa Company Medal).

Background

In 1895 all the territories subject to the British South Africa Company were drawn together under the new name of Rhodesia. By the end of March 1896, conditions for the Matabele people in the new Rhodesia drove them to rise up in rebellion. The BSAC could not keep control, so a relief force - the Bulawayo Field Force - was raised, comprising one group under Major Herbert Plumer, which entered the chief town of Bulawayo in May, and additional imperial troops under Sir Frederick Carrington, who joined Plumer's men in June.

Included in the latter force was Robert Baden-Powell who was the chief of staff, and it was his prowess in scouting out and spying on the enemy that was responsible for much of its success. The Matabele tribesmen worked in small groups, using their knowledge of the terrain to set up mountain strongholds from which to carry out raids and ambushes. The campaign was one of small encounters, which were finally brought to an end when Baden-Powell's chief native scout, Jan Grootboom, managed to get the Matabele chiefs to attend an indaba with Cecil Rhodes.

[London Gazette, 7 May 1897], Matabeleland Rebellion, Bulawayo, Rhodesia, 30 March 1896, Trooper Herbert Stephen Henderson, Rhodesia Horse (Bulawayo Field Force), South African Forces.

On the morning of the 30th March 1896, just before light, Captain Macfarlane's party was surprised by the natives. Troopers Celliers and Henderson, who formed part of the advanced guard, were cut off from the main body, and Celliers was shot through the knee. His horse also was badly wounded and eventually died. Henderson then placed Celliers on his own horse, and made the best of his way to Bulawayo. The country between Campbell's Store, where they were cut off, and Bulawayo, a distance of about thirty-five miles, was full of natives fully armed, and they had, therefore, to proceed principally by night, hiding in the bush in the daytime.

Celliers, who was weak from loss of blood, and in great agony, asked Henderson to leave him, but he would not, and brought him in, after passing two days and one night in the veldt without food.

Herbert Henderson was invested with his Victoria Cross by the Governor of Cape Colony, Lord Milner, in Bulawayo on the 14th November 1897.

Herbert Henderson died on the 10th August 1942, aged 72, at his home in Bulawayo, Rhodesia and was buried in the city's Centenary Park Cemetery, also known as Bulawayo Town Cemetery.

Medal entitlement of Trooper Herbert Stephen Henderson - Rhodesia Horse (Bulawayo Field Force):-

Victoria Cross

British South Africa Company Medal (1890-97) inscribed on reverse: "Matabeleland 1893" plus clasp: "Rhodesia 1896"

October RV

Registrations are now being taken for the 2007 event.

Price

\$30 for adults and \$10 for under 12 year olds. This covers you for the braai on Saturday and, in the case of adults, your \$5 membership to the Rhodesian Services Association for 12 months.

Rough details

Friday 19th October – Movie evening at the Garrison Club, 6th Battalion (Hauraki) Regiment, open from 4pm with hamburgers for sale, show starts 7pm, we will be taking a gold coin donation with the proceeds going to our hosts for the Hauraki Museum fund.

Saturday 20th October – Golf at 10am at the Otumoetai Course (Note it is a different venue to last year) RV venue at 6th Battalion (Hauraki) Regiment registration from 2.30pm, welcome at 3.30pm.

Sunday 21st October – Debrief (AGM) venue at Classic Flyers Museum, breakfast from 11am, meeting starts approximately 12 noon.

Details required with your payment

first name and surname for each RV ticket

numbers for golf

numbers for the Debrief.

Please send your payment made to:

H Bomford

PO Box 13003

Tauranga 3141

If you want to make electronic transfer I will provide you with details on request.

We really have to have your commitment in a timely manner so that we can best plan things. We run this event on a very tight budget and it is all done in our 'spare time', all the people involved with the organisation have full time jobs and family commitments. To assist us to cater accurately and to make for an enjoyable event, for us all, please help us by getting your booking in early.

Goods for Auction

This is our biggest fundraiser every year. Steve Geach will be the auctioneer again this year (that in itself is worth paying to see!) If you have any quality Rhodesiana or Africana that you would like to donate please contact Paul Nes 09 537 4302

Photos from the October RV 2006

To remind you of the good times that were had at the last RV click on the picture below if you are connected to the internet, or use the link to view the slide show that Colin and Terri Logie arranged. Inquiries as to how to set up your own internet based photo album email clogie@clear.net.nz



http://www.photomax.com/web/mem_album_photo_slide_show.php?TrackId=1504136&RandomId=1683704854

The Bookshelf

Due to my own extensive commitments I would like someone (or plural) to do book reviews for this newsletter. I am happy to provide the books, then all you have to do is read them and provide a review for publication. How difficult is that? Please contact me

Kevin Woods book

We are privileged to be able to publish excerpts from Kevin Woods's manuscript which is to be published by 30⁹ South Publishing. I hasten to point out that Kevin is not looking for sympathy. In his own words, he knew what he was doing and the dangers involved and the consequences. Whatever your views, the Harare Three as they became known, Kevin Woods, Mike Smith and Philip Conjwayo, survived a hell of a sentence.

"Kevin Woods was sentenced to death in Zimbabwe and jailed for twenty years by Robert Mugabe. For more than five years of his detention he was held in the shadow of Mugabe's gallows, cut off from the world, naked and in solitary confinement. He had been a senior member of Mugabe's dreaded Central Intelligence Organization, the CIO, and was jailed for committing politically motivated offences, on behalf of the white South African government, against the ANC in Zimbabwe.

From Mugabe's confidant to condemned prisoner he recounts his life on the edge, as a double agent. He explains the desolation of being abandoned by South Africa when he was compromised and he details his lone fight to maintain his humanity, self-dignity and sanity in a prison system that belongs to the Middle Ages. Removed from society and with his fundamental human rights arbitrarily withdrawn, Woods has been there, done that, and has got the T-shirt when it comes to stress, utter hopelessness and coping while under the most desperate conditions imaginable.

This book will inspire you to take an introspective look at your own life, your careers, your aspirations and ambitions. His story, unlike so many others, has a happy ending with him hugging his now-adult children and meeting former President Nelson Mandela being the highlights."

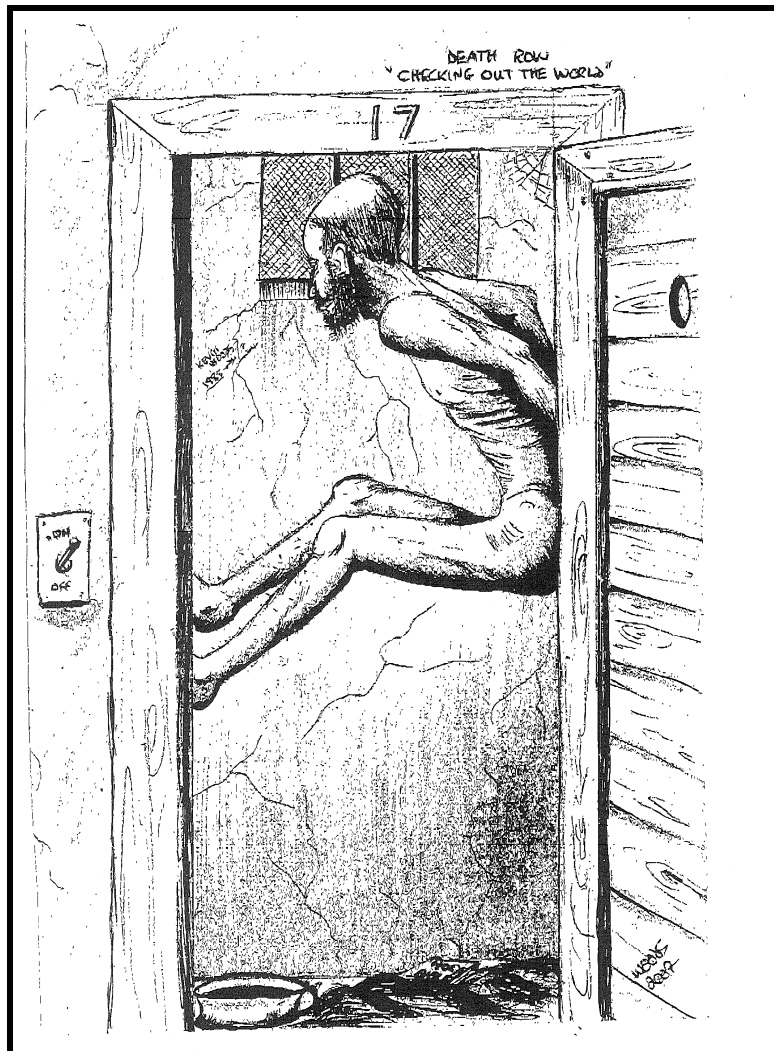
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"Many people since my release from Zimbabwe prison on 1st July 2006 have displayed great interest, for diverse reasons, in this book. People who have suffered at Mugabe's hands want to know why; others find the bits of my

story that I've told them intriguing; some have wept along with me through my tales; and others want nothing more than the evil that is Robert Mugabe exposed.

Many of my former colleagues, agents, spies and friends fear this book, as I remain the only double agent to have been prosecuted and jailed for our activities in Zimbabwe and they don't want to follow in my footsteps! No fuss. No one need worry. I have no intention whatsoever of divulging any names or other details which will lead to new indictments and prosecutions."

Kevin has continued with his drawing and this one below depicts him 'scurrying' up the wall of a death row cell at Harare Central to have a look out the barred and mesh covered window, with nothing in the cell but a potty, a blanket and a Bible.

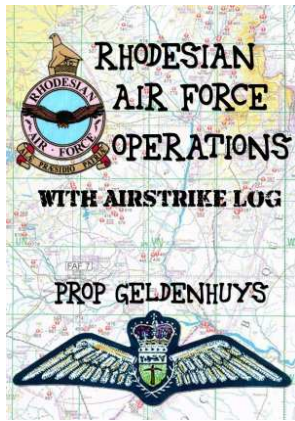


Writing the history of the Rhodesia Regiment begins

Alex Binda, author of the RLI history 'The Saints', and the RAR history 'Masoja', has agreed to tackle the biggest section of Rhodesian military history yet attempted. Alex is to write the history of the Rhodesia Regiment. The target for completion is 2010. I have pledged my full support to Alex. It may be fair to say that the majority of Rhodesian soldiers were at some stage under the badge of the Rhodesia Regiment. Therefore there is a wealth of information out there that needs to be recorded to ensure that our history is not lost.

The Rhodesia Regiment's roots go back to around 1898. Soldiers of the regiment served in the Boer War; WWI; WWII, and finally the Bush War when there were 10 Battalions, and six Independent Companies involved (until they became part of the RAR around 1977). And, of course, the Depot Rhodesia Regiment where many of us got our first taste of the army at Llewellyn Barracks

This is a very exciting project. Please be part of it. Alex asks that if you can assist, send any relevant material to me at hbomford@clear.net.nz for forwarding.



I have just received my copy of this and believe me it is a very good book. The book is A4 size, because map definition is essential, 296 pages on glossy paper, currently available only in soft cover. The log list is in tabulated form with over 1085 Air Strikes, and also brief write-ups of most operations - something like 220, excluding a large number of Exercises.

For orders contact Prop Geldenhuys, 813 The Gables, Esplanade, Durban 4001, RSA ph. 031-3066408 or email pey@lantic.net

INTRODUCTION – By Group Captain Tol JANEKE, DMM

Prop has dedicated this book to his wife Rina and everyone mentioned in its pages. But it certainly covers a far greater readership than mentioned in his dedication. He has painstakingly and methodically recorded the history, not only of the airmen who were privileged to fly the aircraft involved in the air strikes, but so many others. All the wonderful support given by men and women within the Air Force and by the sister Services. And then there were the civilians who gave of their precious time to become members of the Volunteer Reserve and the Police Reserve Air Wing.

Their names too you will find in these pages, meticulously recorded and indexed for the generations still to come. Here are the names of soldiers, policemen and internal affairs, men and women who added to the often unheralded courage behind the exciting story of these air strikes. The troops on the ground and those that flew in our aircraft with us, some of whom hated leaving their own familiar environment on the ground and in the bush.

Whilst the recording of all these air strikes in itself is a fascinating story, none of the almost clinical efficiency of this small force could have happened if it were not for the many years of training and development that preceded the conflict. Certainly based upon the methods and structure of the pre-war Royal Air Force, the solid foundations of the Rhodesian Air Force were set in the Second World War.

A spirit of comradeship and loyalty developed within this, by world standards, tiny unit, which drew the admiration of even the dissenters of Rhodesia. For those of us who were part of this Air Force there was a special feeling of belonging. A pride that was quite extraordinary that in turn developed magnificent morale and the will to succeed. For most of the participants mentioned in this book the culmination of the war has led to very different lives in civvy street. Many have become successful in their second careers, but very few indeed have again experienced the wonderful comradeship, passion and dedication they experienced in the Air Force.

To those historians and collectors of militaria, this book is one that fills in much detail. It shows how operations in Rhodesia started slowly and built up to a situation where virtually the entire country became involved. The mass of little numbered dots on the maps shows the position of widespread strikes in all the operational areas. To the very end the Air Force kept up its valiant task of securing the airspace for our troops, the BSAP, the farmers and industry. This in addition to the direct support for those missions across the borders.

By retaining centralised command it was possible to provide air fire power into all corners of the country. Often a single aircraft and its crew were carrying out strikes in three different areas of the country in a single day. And this from an Air Force that should have, in the words of our detractors, “ceased to exist” many years before the end of the war.

I am often asked whether I regret my involvement in the Rhodesian conflict. To this I can honestly say an emphatic no. At the time the southern tip of Africa was undergoing massive political change. In its own way the long drawn out battle gave the Southern African countries time to mature and to reflect. Time for the erstwhile colonies of Europe to reconsider the wisdom of the hurried abandonment of their responsibilities to their erstwhile territories.

South Africa was given the time to recognise the futility of its policies and to recognise the need for a negotiated change. Also it showed the communist countries that their philosophies would not prevail in Southern Africa. The

more pertinent question should be 'what would Southern Africa look like now if Rhodesians had abandoned their duties and the Air force had not played its crucial role in the war'? To have been part of these historic times was in itself reward enough. To have contributed in a small way to them made the reward even greater.

Prop has acknowledged that even this record is not complete. There are bound to be errors where records have been destroyed or are not accessible. It is important therefore that these gaps be filled in and corrections made while many of those who took part in the air strikes are still alive and have personal records reflecting the history. It is a history which deserves to be recorded. This book will keep alive the memory of an outstanding Air Force fighting for a special country and its extraordinary people.

F.D Janeke Westville, Durban May 2007

CQ Store – go online and see what is on offer at

<http://www.rhodesianservices.org/The%20Shop.htm>

It is important that we turn our stock over in order to generate funds. Please go on line through the link above and see what you can do to help. If you are stuck for a birthday present the CQ Store is a good place to start.

Here are some suggestions:-



Lion & Tusk polo shirts \$36.50, t-shirts \$30.00 + postage



Beanies at \$20 + postage



Lion & Tusk cap \$23.00 + postage

Unofficial Rhodesian Combat Infantry Badge.

New stock has arrived. For details of eligibility and further information go through the CQ Store link above. You can also download a document from <http://www.rhodesianservices.org/user/image/cibinfo.doc> If this is all too complicated for you, just send me an email.

Rhodesian General Service Medal copies

The response to my survey regarding the production of copy Rhodesian General Service Medals was astounding. The volume of replies was completely unexpected and as such we are progressing with getting quotes and we will keep you informed. It is a matter of finances. To get copy RGSMs made we will need sufficient funds in the bank before we can proceed.

Books and DVDs at <http://www.rhodesianservices.org/Books.htm>

This section is not part of the Rhodesian Services Association inventory.

Coming Soon! - Msasa Enterprises, high quality productions. Titles to include:

- Rhodesian Forces - One & Two Double DVD
- The Final Chapter DVD
- The Flame Lily Collection Double DVD
- Isandlwana - Zulu Battlefield DVD
- The Saints - The Rhodesian Light Infantry DVD
- Rhodesian Forces - A Tribute in Sound COMPACT DISC

For product information and clips go to <http://www.rhodesianvideos.mazoe.com/>

We have a number of book titles in stock (have a look though the link <http://www.rhodesianservices.org/Books.htm>) and we are awaiting delivery of new stock of 'The Saints' which will arrive in NZ on the 12th of August, we have been told

The Global Forked Stick

Malcolm McNicol writes: I am researching for a book on my late father **Douglas James (Pat) McNicol**. He was from New Zealand and served in the SAAF in the 1930's and worked as a flying instructor for De Havilland in Rhodesia. He met my late mother Barbara Pasker, (Born Barbara Sheard) at the Light Plane Club in Bulawayo. He lost a leg in a plane crash in Rhodesia, probably in approx.1939, in an incident similar to that of 'Pat' Judson, I believe.

I would appreciate any information that you think may help or perhaps an indication where I might look.

eMail: mmcnicol@xtra.co.nz

Rhodesian Forces Memorial in South Africa: call for donations

Preserving the memory of those who paid the supreme sacrifice - a call to all Rhodesians and those who fought in the war.

There is no established memorial for all members of the Rhodesian Forces who died in the line of duty during the Rhodesian Conflict. This is a Rhodesian Forces project and the Flame Lily Foundation kindly volunteered their assistance if needed.

The Rhodesian Forces Memorial project is now a fact of life. It has been thoroughly researched, plans have been finalized and decisions made under the Chairmanship of Pat Hill. The committee comprises members of each Force, namely, the BSAP, Army, Air Force, INTAF, together with Rhodesian volunteers who have pledged their time and expertise. There is also representation from the MOTHS.

The plan agreed on is for a mobile memorial mounted on a trailer with detachable insignia that would be able to be moved around the country. All insignia, design, master drawings, materials and costs, have been thoroughly researched and checked for correctness. Size of regalia has been done to fit the trailer exactly. The Committee must still review the work of the two companies who are bidding to carry out the work on the insignia. It must be noted that all the elements of this mobile concept can easily be adapted to suit a permanent memorial and vice versa.

The Committee has sought to keep costs reasonable without sacrificing on quality. Quotes have been received from various companies regarding the various requirements necessary to implement a memorial of this nature.

A sum of R100 000 has been considered by the Committee to be fair in order to make this memorial one we can be proud of.

The MOTHS at the Dickie Fritz Shellhole have agreed to house the trailer and related equipment at no charge. However, the Committee have decided that a contribution will be made to the Shellhole. This will be a minor expense and we will handle it later.

After 27 years, we can finally say – “We got our act together!” I would like to thank my fellow committee members for their support – I can say with complete confidence and pride that I could not have been associated with “a finer, more dedicated, commonsensical, logical, cut the crap, let’s remember our fallen, get on with it” bunch of people. This is a cause near and dear to all our hearts and we need to remember those who sacrificed their lives to enable you and I to smile and laugh today. On behalf of my tireless Committee and myself, we ask you to reflect on bygone days and think of what the fallen did for you and what we can do for them.

Our plight: we now have everything in place, ready to go, but no funds are available to execute the plan. We need the monies immediately to cater for lead and production times. Orders and go-aheads have to be given now if we are to have everything completed by 11 November 2007. We ask you to treat this as a matter of URGENCY. Please don't let us wait another 27 years to show our respect – they've waited long enough.

Donations can be made to:

Bank: Absa Branch Brooklyn Branch code: 335 345 Account Number: 1500 680 799 Account Name: Flame Lily Foundation Ref: RFMP and Your Name (This is important to ensure the funds are allocated to the Memorial Project.)

The SWIFT Code for overseas donations is: ABSAZAJJ Should you have any queries, please feel free to contact the Chairman or Secretary: (NOTE to Hugh: perhaps just a couple of contacts?)

Chairman: Patrick Hill +27 11 787 9626 (Work) +27 11 475 2522 (Home) +27 83 468 5286 (Cellular)

Secretary: Graham Peak +27 12 621 0400 (Work) +27 11 976 2470 (Home) +27 82 894 8747 (Cellular)

In conclusion, we need your generous donations NOW, as we plan to complete the mobile Memorial by the end of September 2007, in good time to take care of finishing touches by 11 November 2007. We can all attend this year's Memorial Service to our fallen, justly proud that we are finally giving them some real recognition in this Memorial.

God bless you all
Pat Hill

WWII Rhodesian Airmen Memorial Commemoration

Martin Dives writes: just got back from the annual commemoration service at Ste Marguerite des Loges, in Calvados, Normandy, held on Sunday 22 July for the Rhodesian Airmen who lost their lives in WWII. Colin Salmon (ex Plumtree School and my brother-in-law) and I each laid a wreath and the mayor, in a few moving words, expressed his appreciation for their contribution.

Later the mayor told me that even if there was no Rhodesian representative present (as was the case last year, when I was unable to attend), he assured me they would still honour the Rhodesian airmen, as part of their annual commemoration service. They are very devoted and would love the memorial to be visited by more people.

It's in a beautiful part of Normandy, very close to Camembert where this cheese was first made and the area where the Falaise Pocket was closed at the end of the Normandy Campaign, with an excellent museum nearby. A fascinating region to visit!

'PB' writes: I wonder if you can ask your audience if anyone knows, or used to know, **Jock Elphinstone** of CAA, Air Rhodesia and, possibly, AFRITAIR. His daughter wants to put together an album of e-mails from many who knew/know Jock as an 85th birthday present. Jock was flight engineer to many colourful characters over many years in Rhodesia's aviation history. Hopefully some of these guys who are ORAFS members or know someone who will be able to send me some amusing, heroic, naughty or newsy item to add to my submission.

Please reply to 'PB' on peter@pebo.go-plus.net

John Edmond and Roan Antelope Music August Special Offer

Living in Africa (or on any continent for that matter) can be dangerous, unstable or downright bizarre. However laughter and humour in these instances is often the best medicine. The late great Wrex Tarr had the talent to make a nation laugh in it's darkest hour. So this month in view of what's going on in the world we have declared it "Humour Month".

We are offering a combination of "Cream of Chilapalapa" Wrex Tarr & "Born in Africa" by John Edmond on a special to help you laugh your blues away and soak up a bit of Africa. "Cream of Chilapalapa" contains 80 minutes (a full CD) and is the only legal compilation of Wrex's best. "Born in Africa" contains 16 great tracks "Lion sleeps", "Drink the Zambezi water", "Give my love to Africa", "Skokiaan" and more!

Order from Roan Antelope Music's website: www.johnedmond.co.za or phone +27 014 735 0774 or email jredmond@mweb.co.za

Until next time - go well

Cheers
Hugh

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