



Contact! Contact!

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A monthly sitrep. for the

Rhodesian Services Association Incorporated

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Please Note that all previous publications are available on line at
www.rhodesianservices.org/Newsletters.htm

Greetings,

The new look to our publication has met with approval. Many thanks to all those who took the time to write to me.

It never ceases to amaze me what strength of feeling there is out there amongst those of us who experienced Rhodesia and what it meant to be a Rhodesian. We may well be accused of having been naive and blinkered in our ways, but when I look around and see the mess that the world is in today, I have to say that what we stood for was by far and away a better set of values. Our Rhodesia may not have been sustainable, but we were never given a chance. I do not have to point out to you that those who were so vociferous in opposing us, are the very same ilk of people who, in today's world, force into place the ridiculous kind of rules which ban kids from climbing trees for fear that they will injure themselves, and make people in Christian based countries to alter their celebrations so as not to offend people of other religions and beliefs. For me, contact with other Rhodesians and like minded people from around the world provides welcome relief to the insanity that bombards me every time I listen to the radio and TV or open a paper.

It is with pleasure that I share this extract of an email from Keith Wawn:

"Hi Hugh,

Thanks for the response and the latest "Contact, Contact".

Talking about the old cammo, I smuggled a lot of my old kit out of Zim. around 1986 during a trip up there to see my folks. We left in 1981 and my brother Tony quite rightly wanted to chuck all evidence of our involvement in the hondo away so that our elderly folks (who lived there until they both passed on in the late 90's) would not be persecuted by the regime after we had all bomb-shelled around the globe.

Our hoard included all sorts of mortar rounds, 7.62 ball and tracer rounds and shrapnel that my younger brother (also RLI) had collected and placed on top of the curtain railing box in his room! I think Tony huzzed all of these into an adjacent farm in the middle of the night! I took quite a chance, as you had to go through about eight check-points from Salisbury to Beit Bridge! I had hidden the battle jacket, webbing, water bottles, mozzie net, boots (stick and combat), combat-cap, beret, etc. under the back-seat of the car. I had stripped it completely and assembled it again with the kit squashed in there. The denim shirts, trousers, as well as KD shorts, PT shorts, socks and vests, etc. were folded carefully into my civvie kit, in the suit cases.

The most intense search took place at the last road block before Beit Bridge, where they actually lifted up my shirts and trousers, but thankfully didn't see the cammo folded inside each garment! The one gook (now "policeman") who was doing the searching was ironically enough wearing Rhodesian Army cammo denims himself! So I have a suitcase full of this katundu, so that not all of what we did was totally lost to these cowards!

Cheers,
Keith'

We have some exciting prospects ahead of this Association. Steve Addison recently made a donation to our museum collection of a can of 16mm film titled 'The See Saw Years'. We sent it to a laboratory in Wellington, New Zealand where it was copied to digital format. From there it went to Harmon Cusack of Msasa Enterprises who edited it and put it on DVD for us together with another film 'A Reason to Care'. In brief 'The See Saw Years' is a 30 minute skit set in the Umvukwes area showing a day in the life of a farmer made in the late 1950's or early 1960's. It is in colour and in excellent condition for its age. 'A Reason to Care' is 15 minutes long, also in colour from the mid 1970's and was made to introduce the concept of indigenous animal integration to farms. When we have our packaging sorted out we will release it for sale through our CQ Store.

In a few weeks time we will be attempting to raise funds by running a food stall at the Tauranga Gun Show. This is a new concept for us and something that if successful, we will repeat at other events.

We have some new additions to our CQ Store which you can read about further on. Your continued support is wonderful – thank you.

Obituaries

Please Note that the Rhodesian Services Association holds a large Rhodesian flag for use at funerals. Please contact me at hbomford@clear.net.nz if required.

Past President of the Hobsonville RSA, **David Gilbert**, (RNZAF Svce No: 78715, Rank Warrant Officer; Aged 69 years), died suddenly at home on Monday 27 July, 2009. The funeral service was held at the Hobsonville RSA on Friday 31st July. Wolf Hucke attended on behalf of the Rhodesian Services Association and extended our condolences.



The Rhodesian Services Assn. wreath for David Gilbert

The following are all extracted from ORAFS briefs. Contact Eddy Norris orafs11@gmail.com for further details:
*"Sadly I must advise that Prop Geldenhuys phoned this morning to pass on the news that **John McKenzie** had passed away early this morning, July 20th 2009 in Swaziland after a long and painful battle with cancer.*

*John attested, as a Range Warden at Kutanga Range which is just outside Que Que in October 1961 and retiring from the service in 1983. He was awarded the D.M.M. .
He was fondly known as Kutanga Mac and his passing is a great loss to us all, those that knew will certainly never forget him and for the memorial he manufactured for those lost on Operation Miracle.*

R.I.P. Kutanga Mac Our very deepest sympathy to June and family and also to brother, Ian, who also served in the Rhodesian Air Force

Messages can be sent to June on kutangamac@realnet.co.sz and if problems are experienced with that email address then please mail Prop on pey@lantic.net

Chris Wepener passed away on 10th July, 2009 as a result of a heart attack whilst playing golf in the UK. Chris attested as an Engine Fitter with 26 LAR in January, 1970.

John Fairey died in the UK as a result of an air accident in the on Wednesday, July 8th 2009.

Extracted from "The News" of Portsmouth:- Captain Fairey, 74, son of Sir Richard Fairey, the founder of the Fairey Aircraft Company, crashed his piston Provost plane close to the river Ancholme at Bishop Norton, Lincolnshire, on his return from an air show at RAF Waddington.

John served from September 1978 until April 1980 as pilot in the Rhodesian Air Force.

From **Norman Stockton**:

I am very sad to have to inform you all of my dear **Peggy's** passing. She died very peacefully this morning at 10:30 hrs, July 13th 2009 and now happily her terrible suffering is all over.

For those of you who were not aware, Peggy first contracted breast cancer nineteen years ago, and she has battled tenaciously (typical Rhodesian!) against it while it slowly and persistently proceeded on it's awful journey. Somehow she managed to reach the ripe old age of 74 - but to look at her after that horrible struggle was very sad. She was just skin and bone in the end - (she had lost over 40 kgs. in this last year).

I have spoken to many of you on the telephone recently, and I wish to thank you all for your kind messages of support, and your many offers of help. I find that if I can keep myself busy (and I have an awful lot to do, now) I will somehow be able to overcome my grief at this time.

On behalf of my darling Peggy, thank you for your friendship over the years.

My kind regards to you and yours
Norman

Postscript by Eddy Norris:

Norman served with the Federal SAS and later, I think, in the Pay Corp and has been a friend of ORAFs for many years now. Norman and Peggy reside in Sommerset West, South Africa. Messages of sympathy can be directed to ORAFs orafs11@gmail.com who will get them to Norman."

Bill Epps writes:

"I just picked up an item on the UK news that one **Lance Corporal Dane Elson** (aged 22) was killed in action on Sunday whilst on patrol with the Fire Support Group in the current offensive taking place in Helmand Province, Afghanistan. Dane Elson, who is described by his comrade as being a highly popular and extremely talented soldier, was born in Zimbabwe and joined the Welsh Guards in 2004.

As a son of the old country just thought you might like to include a mention in one of your publications particularly if you know of the family.

Regards,
Bill

Off The Radar

The following people's addresses have gone dead. If you are in comms with them please ask them to contact me. Please also remember to let me know if you are changing your email address.

- **Alister Venter** – New Zealand
- **Mike Turner** – New Zealand
- **Tony Lee** – Australia

Jock Hutton

This piece is reproduced here with permission of Dutch Huiberts editor of the 'Winged Stagger', publication of the SAS Association.



Jock Hutton SSM C Sqn SAS 1967-1968

"Dave Scales wrote:

'I received a call from Karen Holmes (daughter of Jock Hutton) who mentioned to me that Jock was going to parachute into Normandy as part of the D-Day commemorations. I phoned Jock to wish him happy landings (not bad for a D-Day veteran) and I understand that he will be doing the jump (tandem) with a member of the British Army Red Devil's parachute team). He is the only D-Day veteran jumping and the last time Jock exited over France D-Day sites, under a canopy, was 65 years ago.

Last year he was in SA visiting his daughters, and during his visit I invited him to the 64th D-Day anniversary parade at our MOTH shellhole, and during the parade I had the privilege of introducing Jock to all present and whilst doing so, read out his military CV:

- *Sergeant Major Jock Hutton joined the "Black Watch" in the UK in 1939.*
- *In 1943 he joined the British Parachute Regiment.*
- *After parachuting into Normandy on D-Day 6th June 1944 he fought against the Germans in the area of Ranville on the east and western banks of the River Orn.*
- *On 22 June 1944 he was wounded and casevaced back to the UK.*
- *After appropriate R and R he was deployed to the Ardennes and in one skirmish with the Germans, 82 of his own people were killed within a thirty minute battle. Jock was, during this skirmish, captured by the Germans. He later escaped.*
- *In 1945 he parachuted into Germany for further battles.*
- *Over the period 1945 to 1948 he was involved in Palestine operations*
- *From 1949 till 1952 he served in Cyprus and then in Egypt.*
- *During 1952 till 1954 Jock conducted operations in Malaya, Singapore and Java.*
- *Jock then went to Northern Rhodesia in 1955 where he, after the forming of the SAS in 1961, participated in the first selection course.*
- *He later moved to Southern Rhodesia and in 1967 succeeded Stan Standish as SSM (Squadron Sergeant Major) of the SAS.*
- *He remained in Rhodesia in various positions until 1981 and then moved to South Africa.*
- *During the period 1981 to 1985 Jock was in 5 Reconnaissance Regiment of the South African Defence Force in Phalaborwa.*

Bold devil Jock Hutton: "I'm over the moon!" (article from *The Sun*, Monday 8th June 2009 by John Coles)

D-Day hero paratrooper Jock Hutton has re-enacted his historic leap - aged 84. Gutsy Jock was invited to take part in a tribute by the Parachute Regiment's display team to mark the operation's 65th anniversary on Saturday. He was strapped to a Para for the tandem jump - and landed near the same spot in Normandy on the same date, June 6, as he had in 1944. Once down, Jock declared: "That's my number one experience. I'm over the moon."

Jock, then 19 and serving with 13 Para, was part of the airborne force which landed near Ranville, the first village to be liberated. He was hit in the stomach by shrapnel during the battle. In Saturday's leap, he landed in Ranville Stadium. Scots-born Jock, of Larkfield, Kent, added: "I'm thrilled and honoured to have been asked to jump again. "I thought my days in a parachute were long gone!"

Red Devils commander Major Paul Blair said: "Having a D-Day veteran with us was inspiring and humbling."

Capt Ian McLeish, of 3 Para, said: "There was little evidence of nerves. He landed, jumped up and paraded in his maroon Para beret."

Thousands of veterans joined D-Day anniversary events over the weekend. PM Gordon Brown, Prince Charles, US president Barack Obama, Canadian PM Stephen Harper and French president Nicolas Sarkozy attended a ceremony at the US war cemetery in Colleville-sur-Mer. US, French and German paratroopers gave a display yesterday. A million poppies were dropped from an RAF Hercules over Southsea, Hants."



Front page of The Sun



Thumps up ...Old devil Jock and Para set to leap

Museum News

We have made progress with the Ian Smith display located at the Classic Flyers Museum, Mount Maunganui, New Zealand. The following text, printed on vinyl, together with suitable photos, has been placed into the cabinet. The research and editing of the text was done by Mrs Sylvia Logie and is reproduced below. We have yet to mount two portraits of Mr Smith as well as a few other bits and pieces to complete the job.

IAN DOUGLAS SMITH (8.4.1919 - 20.11.2007)

- Royal Air Force - 237 (Rhodesia) Squadron 1942- 1944
 - Royal Air Force 130 Squadron 1945 –
 - Prime Minister of Rhodesia 1964 - 1979

Ian Douglas Smith, later to be well known throughout the world as the Prime Minister of Rhodesia who declared independence from Britain unilaterally on 11th November 1965, served in the Royal Air Force during World War II was a remarkable man.

Born and brought up on a farm in the Selukwe (now called Shurugwe) area, (of Rhodesia now Zimbabwe). Ian Smith attended Chaplin High School, Gwelo (now called Gweru). He was very keen on sport and always involved in rugby. At the outbreak of war in 1939 he was studying at Rhodes University in Grahamstown (South Africa). However, at the end of 1940 whilst home for the long vacation he volunteered for the Air Force. His dream was to fly a Spitfire. Rhodesia had been chosen as one of the countries to pioneer the Empire Air Training Scheme.

After basic training in Bulawayo, with the Rhodesian, British and Australian contingents, he started flying training on aircraft at the RAF training camps in Gwelo, Guinea Fowl and Thornhill, first of all on Tiger Moths and later on Harvards.

Pilot Officer Ian Smith was deployed to the Middle East, first of all to Egypt then to an operational training unit in Lebanon. He was then posted to No.237 (Rhodesia) Squadron where he did a conversion course to Hawker Hurricanes and joined the squadron in Kirkuk in Persia (present day Iraq) in November 1942. The squadron was non operational at this time and his memories seemed to be all of the rugby games played against the London Scottish and London Irish Regiments, and the permanent RAF personnel at Habbanya base near Baghdad.

They were moved to the Western Desert; first to El Alamein, but General Montgomery had started his push and they were soon moved again to Mersa Matruh and Tobruk. They then were pulled back to Alexandria. It was while

providing escort for units of the Italian Fleet wishing to surrender at Alexandria, that Flying Officer Ian Smith's aircraft, a Hurricane IIC, hit a sandbag barrier and crashed. He sustained serious injury. His Sutton harness broke and he smashed his face into the gyrosight.

He was treated in the Fifteenth Scottish Hospital on the banks of the Nile in Cairo. He had a broken jaw, broken leg, broken shoulder, and a back which at first was also thought to be broken, but fortunately was only 'buckled', the word he used in his memoirs, 'The Great Betrayal'. The serious injuries to his face took much reconstruction and plastic surgery. He was in the hands of a fine team of doctors, amongst them a maxillary surgeon, Major Oldfield, and a dental surgeon, Ronnie Pook. At least one of the team had worked with Sir Archibald McIndoe, famous for his work with facial injuries and burns at the East Grinstead Hospital near London (see footnote).

Ian Smith thus indirectly benefited from the work of this remarkable New Zealander and was able to return to active duty after about six months. The only apparent disfigurement was some rigidity in his face, and this was responsible for his inscrutable expression which was so often remarked on during his later political career.

In the meantime the Squadron had moved to Cyprus and by the time Ian Smith rejoined the Squadron it was operating out of Corsica into Northern Italy under American command and the Allies were chasing the enemy northwards. He was flying a Mark IX Spitfire and his principal task was to cover the American bombers - Mitchells and Marauders - on their daily missions over occupied territory.

When not escorting bombers, the Spitfires would harass the rail transport and on 22nd June 1944, just two weeks after the Normandy landings, Flying Officer Smith was strafing and blowing up trains in the Po Valley when he collected flak from an ack-ack gun whilst flying very near the ground and his plane caught fire. He parachuted safely to ground unharmed.

A shepherd boy of a family called Zunino watched the drama and took him to his family in Vallescura, who first hid him in the mountains and then took him into their home where he was kept occupied chopping wood to keep fit and helping collect food.

Shortly afterwards he met a Signor Pesce and his wife who ran a prosperous millinery business in Genoa, and who could afford to maintain a retreat at San Pietro d'Alba in the mountains above the city. The Pesces offered to take Smith in, but he refused. "They were already sheltering an escapee, a British Army captain, and I thought they were running too big a risk because their house was almost next door to a German military establishment. So I continued to live in the valley but visited the Pesces occasionally for short periods. Then one day a group of 'partigiani' (partisans) passed through Vallescura and I decided to move on with them. I wanted to do something positive to help their cause."

He made contact with the local partisans through Fr. Don Beive who took him to the partisan commandante Mingo, operating out of Moretti Piancastagna. Ian Smith's unit was the Piancastagna company of the division Garibaldi who were ambushing and harassing Germans in the area. His job was to help plan and take part in hit and run strikes and sabotage operations against German military installations. He was five months in Italy; he was to say that they were amongst the most interesting of his life.

With the onset of winter it was time to move on and together with a British Army corporal (Bill), a Frenchman, an Austrian and a Pole, he eventually made his way over the Ligurian Alps into France, walking through snow, inadequately dressed, and part of the time, barefoot. After 23 days they stumbled down the last French Alpine slopes and, with the help of a farmer, Jean Batiste Chambrin crossed the German lines into American held territory. He eventually found his way to an RAF transit camp in Cannes.

He was posted to Britain and after a refresher course at an RAF base in Shropshire and was attached to RAF 130 Squadron for the remainder of the war. He went on missions over Germany and Denmark, and with his new squadron was the first into Norway with the British Liberation Army after the cessation of hostilities in May 1945.

Ian Smith returned to his family in Rhodesia and resumed his studies for a B.Com degree at Rhodes University. In 1948 he married Janet Duvenhage (nee Watt) a widow with two young children. They were farmers, but almost immediately he became involved in politics, and on 13th April 1964 he became a world figure as the Prime Minister of Rhodesia.

He was a daring and courageous man, he had tenacity and integrity, and he believed in his chosen course and steadfastly followed it.

Foot note:

Sir Archibald McIndoe was born in Dunedin, New Zealand, in 1900. He studied medicine at the University of Otago and was House Surgeon at Waikato Hospital until moving overseas. After a distinguished medical career he specialised in plastic surgery and was appointed consultant in plastic surgery to the RAF in 1938. He was knighted in 1947 for his remarkable work in restoring the minds and bodies of the burnt young pilots of World War II.

Sources of reference:

After the Battle Issue No.10
Anatomy of a Rebel by Peter Joyce
A Pride of Eagles by Beryl Salt
Prof. J.R.T. Wood
The Great Betrayal by Ian Smith
The Quiet Man by Phillippa Berlyn



Front left is the AV display running the Msasa Enterprises custom DVD on demand; The Ian Smith display (work in progress); The visitor's book stand. Behind this is a Hawker Hunter.

Regimental Rumours by 'Stompie'

Greetings all,
Hands up all those who used to frequent the Gremlin Drive-In Restaurant on Enterprise Road in Salisbury?

Friday and Saturday nights were always particularly busy after the late show at the Drive-In on the Umtali Road. Everyone used to congregate at "Gremmies" for a late-night snack, and of course, to show off their wheels. You were the mutt's nuts if you were driving a Datsun 1200 or a suped-up Datsun 120Y. And the trusty BSAP would be cruising up and down Enterprise Road in their Peugeot 404 B-cars waiting for the drag races to begin.....

Finding a place to park on Friday and Saturday nights was always a problem as the place was packed to capacity, the waiters running to and fro with trays laden with greasy burgers, chips and milk shakes. The cheap, tinny intercoms would be buzzing with orders (and complaints!) and the whole place would be rocking with the sound of loud music emanating from the cars. And then some hot-shot could pull up in his state-of-the-art wheels, with the latest paint job, mags, noisy exhaust and Supersonic four-track cassette player and everyone's attention would be on that, particularly if he decided to give a display of his driving skills up and down the Enterprise Road. "Gremmies" was definitely the place to be if you wanted to see action.

SPECIALITIES IN A BASKET		SOUP	
Piri Piri Chicken - - -	\$1,00	Rosy Tomato - - - -	28c
Southern Fried Chicken -	\$1,00	(With Roll or Toast)	
Cold Chicken & Salad -	\$1,00		
GRILLS			
Juicy Steak, Chips, Peas and Tomatoes - - -	75c	Tasty Omelettes (Plain, Ham or Cheese), Chips, Peas and Tomatoes - - -	60c
Bonny double Egg, Chips, Peas and Tomatoes -	55c	Juicy Steak, Egg, Chips, Peas and Tomatoes -	85c
Sizzling Sausage, Egg, Chips, Peas and Tomatoes -	60c	Porky Ham, Egg, Chips, Peas and Tomatoes -	70c
Gremlin Mixed Grill - - -	\$1,00	Pluto Vienna, Egg, Chips, Peas and Tomatoes -	60c
Zingy Beef Curry & Rice -	60c	Prime Bacon, Egg, Chips, Peas and Tomatoes -	60c
Porky Cold Meats & Salad -	60c	Golden Chips - - -	only 15c
Toast or Bread included with Grills			
TOASTED SANDWICHES		TOASTED ROLLS	
Anchovy Toast - - - -	11c	Pluto Hot Dog - - - -	20c
Bacon - - - - -	25c	Flaming Pit Hamburger - -	25c
Bacon & Egg - - - -	35c	Sizzling Pork Sausage Roll with Tomato - - - -	25c
Bovril Toast - - - -	11c	Rumblin Tum American Burger	32c
Buttered Toast - - - -	5c	Prime Bacon Burger - - -	35c
Cheese - - - - -	20c	Prime Bacon Roll - - - -	25c
Cheese & Tomato - - - -	23c	Prime Bacon & Egg Roll -	35c
Chicken - - - - -	30c	Dadup Curryburger - - -	31c
Egg - - - - -	20c	Creamy Cheeseburger - - -	31c
Ham - - - - -	25c	Bonny Egg Roll - - - -	20c
Ham & Egg - - - - -	35c	Bonny Eggburger - - - -	35c
Tomato - - - - -	20c	Zany Gremlin Burger - - -	35c
		Juicy Steak Burger - - -	35c
		Juicy Steak Roll with Tomato	28c
		Juicy Steak & Egg Roll - -	36c
SODA FOUNTAIN			
Gremlin Special - - - -	35c	Milk Shakes (all flavours) -	16c
Peach Malbat - - - - -	35c	Double Thicks - - - - -	35c
Banana Split - - - - -	35c	Minerals (Coke, Lemonade, Orange, Cream Soda) -	9c
Chocnut Sundae - - - -	35c	Cold Milk - - - - -	8c
Fruit Salad and Ice Cream -	35c	Chilled Orchard Orange Juice	17c
Brown Cow - - - - -	16c	Iced Coffee - - - - -	17c
Ice Cream (with flavour) -	10c	Cold Chocolate - - - - -	17c
Fruit Squashes - - - - -	10c		
Old Fashioned Apple Pie and Cream: 24c			
CAKES			
Buttered Scone - - - -	7c	Fruit Cake - - - - -	6c
Cream Scone with Jam - -	10c	Apple Pie and Cream - - -	24c
HOT DRINKS			
Tea (per Pot) - - - - -	10c	Cocba - - - - -	17c
Coffee (Instant) - - - -	10c	Milk - - - - -	10c
Drinking Chocolate - - -	17c	Milo - - - - -	17c
Ovaltine - - - - -	17c	Bovril Drink - - - - -	15c

Gremlin Menu

Just looking at the menu above that has been doing the rounds recently on the interweb, it's hard to believe that we paid \$1 for chicken in a basket - but then, the average salary was about \$120/month, most of the guys were in the army at the time and \$1 was big bucks in those days. I clearly remember the Pluto Hot Dog - good old Colcom frankfurter in a Lobels hot dog roll, with lashings of tomato sauce and mustard.

When I left Zimbabwe a few years ago, Gremlin had been turned into a plant nursery. There were a few attempts to revive the drive-in restaurant concept, none of them successful.

I'm sure there are some great stories (true or slightly trueish) out there about "Gremmies" - come on, let's have them so we can all reminisce about the good old days. Send them to me at stompie@rhodesianservices.org

Until next time, go well.

Cheers!
Stompie



Grunter's Good Oil

Hi all and thank you for your correspondence. Sorry if I have not replied to all of them but have been tied down a bit the last month.

There was a very important Rhodesian sporting anniversary recently. The 27th July 2009 marked 60 years since John Morkel and his Rhodesian rugby team defeated the All Blacks at Hartsfield. To prove it was no fluke they followed it up by drawing with the All Blacks in Salisbury three days later.

John Morkel must be one of a very small select club that can claim, that as captain of their country, they never lost to the All Blacks.

So where ever you are in the world, at your next get together, drink a toast to John Morkel and his Rhodesians. For those living in New Zealand - don't let any Kiwis forget it! (Hugh told me that his late father, Peter Bomford, was having a cup of tea with former All Black captain Graham Mourie some years back and Mourie was ignorant of his team's history and refused to accept that Rhodesia had beaten them in 1949. Mourie only backed down when shown paper cuttings.

These pictures below are reproduced from '*Rhodesia Rugby – A History of the National Side 1898 – 1979*' by Jonty Winch published by the Zimbabwe Rhodesia Rugby Union.



A scoreboard that no sports loving Rhodesian should forget.



L-R Opposing captains Fred Allen and John Morkel

On another track, I got into a verbal 'stoush' with an Englishman (whom I don't know) on Facebook the other day. We were mutual friends of a friend of mine and that is how we were able to correspond. We got into a bit of banter about the ashes and then this English bloke decided to tear a strip off of us. He proceeded to tell me that we, in Rhodesia and Zimbabwe, had never produced a cricket team or an individual cricketer of any note in our entire history. He got quite scathing, at which point I realised that he was being serious. Unfortunately I do not know cricket stats as well as I know rugby and so I was unable to fully take him to task. However, I do know that when Zimbabwe got test status, out of the first six One Day Internationals, we won five!

Anyway who cares what he thinks, but it got me thinking about our greatest cricketers. I am going to try to make a list of cricketers who represented Rhodesia and Zimbabwe who would rank up there with the top players in world cricket. Remember this is my list (and I am sure to be challenged) so I welcome your input and I will update the list accordingly.

- Colin Bland
- Goofy Lawrence
- Joe Partridge
- Percy Mansell
- Tony Pithey
- David Pithey
- David Lewis
- Mike Procter
- Brian Davison
- Paddy Clift
- Jackie Du Preez
- John Traicos
- Duncan Fletcher
- David Houghton
- Andy Pycroft
- Ian Butchart
- Graham Hick
- Andy Flower

So 'till next month, please send your list and thoughts to me at fourstreams@clear.net.nz

Cheers
Grunter

P.S. Do you remember Tom Watson doing so well in the British Open the other day? How many of you knew that he had a Rhodesian wife? Her Maiden name was Hilary Holton. You can't keep us down can you?

What's On In New Zealand?

Auckland

If you reside in the Auckland area email Wolf and Alison Hucke at whucke@xtra.co.nz for more details and to get on their mailing list. Their normal gathering is the third Saturday of the month. All welcome.

August 15th 2009. Venue is the Hobsonville RSA, Hobsonville Road from 6pm onwards. The kitchen will be open, so please RSVP to Wolf and Alison at whucke@xtra.co.nz by 13th August if you intend to be there so that adequate reservations can be made.

September 26th 2009. (Please note: this is the 4th Saturday of the month). The venue is the Archery Club Rooms, Redhills Road, Massey from 6pm. A braai has been arranged so please bring meat and/or a salad. RSVP to Wolf and Alison at whucke@xtra.co.nz by the 19th September. We will be showing the DVD "Counter Strike from the Sky" This is the DVD that 30 Degrees South Publishers have kindly allowed to be shown. It is a shorter version of the full length model which accompanies Richard Wood's book by the same title. It shows the concept of Fireforce used by Rhodesian Forces and adopted since by many other units around the world when fighting guerrillas. It includes shots and interviews with personal from a number of units including SAS, RLI, Selous Scouts, RAR and Rhodesian Air Force. It is well worth watching and when it was shown in Tauranga recently it received great acclaim from the audience. Signed copies of the book with DVD are available email hbomford@clear.net.nz to order.

Tauranga

The Garrison Club run by the 6th Battalion Hauraki Association, is open every Friday from 16:00 hrs and welcomes visitors. On most 2nd Fridays of every month we put on a meal and show a movie. Email me at hbomford@clear.net.nz to get on that mailing list. We have people coming through from Whakatane, Rotorua and Waihi so if you live out of the immediate area please contact me as you may be able to share transport.

August 15th and 16th. The annual Tauranga Gun Show at the Greerton Hall, Cameron Road is on. This year the Rhodesian Services Association will be running a food stall outside the to raise funds for our various projects. We will be serving up kiwi sausages and also top quality boerewors for the more discerning customers. We need volunteers to help run things but if you cannot do that please come along and support us and the show. This food stall is a trial run for us as we have bigger plans for other events. This could be a vital part of our future fundraising. A few hours volunteer work could be very rewarding to the Assn financially and for yourself meeting people and having a few laughs. Our status as a registered charity means doors open when applying for the necessary licenses from the council.

October RV

To be held over **Labour Weekend in New Zealand which is the 23rd, 24th, 25th October 2009.** We will be using the same venues as previously (the Garrison Club in Tauranga and the Classic Flyers Museum, Mount Maunganui). Everyone is welcome. This is not a 'services only' or 'Rhodesian only' function.

If you plan on attending the RV, please book your accommodation early to avoid disappointment. Tickets will go on sale shortly. I will send out details by email – keep an eye out and chat to your friends about it as well. It is always a really great weekend.

CQ Store visit www.rhodesianservices.org/The%20Shop.htm to see what is in store for you

Below is a list of our stock. Please give our CQ Store consideration when buying a present for someone in your family. If you have an important date by which you require delivery please place your order giving us time in case we do not have your size in stock and also to allow for shipping time if the destination is outside New Zealand.

Currently we have good stocks of our replica Rhodesian Rugby jersey in all sizes, long and short sleeve, get yours before we have to restock to avoid delay. Those of you outside of Australasia should start thinking about what you need for Armistice Day parades in November – medals, berets etc.

Please remember that if medals have to be engraved and then mounted, this takes a couple of weeks under normal circumstances and longer if someone in the chain is off sick or on leave.

Neville Abrams in Australia recently bought some of our number plate surrounds and sent this photo back noting: *"I thought this photo came out rather well, with the reflection of the bush and sky in the silver trim. I had to get the lion in, for Africa; and the flag sticker is in the background, but not too clear (at the top of the photo)."*



Neville made some minor modifications to the plate surround to get it to fit his Australian plates. The Aussie plates are slightly larger than the NZ ones and the modification is simple, apparently.

We have several new items in stock which are highlighted below:

- Miniature CIBs. The same service history conditions apply for purchase of this as for the full size CIB – see details on the CQ Store page.
- Rhodesian Police Long Service Medal full size copy made from solid silver. This was awarded after 18 years for long and exemplary service. On account of the scarcity of ribbon (we have a small quantity) this medal is only for sale to the person who it was awarded to or their descendants who wish to reinstate lost or stolen medals.
- Southern Rhodesia War Service Medal full size copy made from solid silver. This medal was awarded to those who served in Southern Rhodesia during the Second World War but who were ineligible for any of the campaign stars or war medals. This is one of the scarcest WWII medals with only around 1,700 being issued. This is the first known copy to be made available for sale to the public. Original medals sell for NZ\$600 upwards. Collectors are most welcome to purchase our copies which include ribbon.



Full size and miniature CIB



Police Long Service Medal



Southern Rhodesia Medal

CQ STORE INVENTORY

ITEMS EXCLUDING POSTAGE	PRICE in NZ\$
4RR Hackles	\$17.50
'Bumper' Stickers, Rhodesia/NZ or Australia flags; Rhodesian flag; Rhodesian Services Assn Lion & Tusk	\$3 each or 2 for \$5
Bullion wire blazer pocket badge – Rhodesia Regiment	\$100
Business Card Holder – stainless steel with Lion & Tusk engraved	\$20
Berets	\$50
Lapel pin - Para Wings	\$15
Lapel Pin - Rhodesian Flag	\$10
Lion & Tusk Baseball Caps	\$25
Lion & Tusk Beanies green, black or other (even pink!) on request	\$22
Lion & Tusk Dog Tags	\$30
Lion & Tusk Polar Fleece jackets – long sleeved in green, black, navy	\$65
Lion & Tusk Polo shirts - black or green	\$38
Lion & Tusk T-shirts - black or green	\$30
Lion & Tusk Women's v-neck stretch shirts - black	\$30
Name badge – resin coated	\$15
Number plate surrounds – 4 styles to choose from	\$12
Pocket Insert Medal Holder	\$15
Regimental Cap Badges – RLI, Intaf, RAR, RDR, BSAP, Grey's Scouts, RRR, RR, Service Corps, Staff Corps, RWS, DRR and more	Priced from \$20 – inquire for details
Regimental ties – Rhodesian Light Infantry	\$40
Regimental ties – Rhodesia Regiment	\$40
Regimental ties – Rhodesian African Rifles	\$40
Regimental ties – SAS (badged SAS only)	\$55
Rhodesian Army Recruitment poster copy “Be a man among men”	\$25
Rhodesian Army Recruitment poster copy “Terrorism Stops Here!”	\$50
Rhodesian General Service Medal copy (silver plate bronze) full size medal with ribbon	\$100
Rhodesian General Service Medal full size copy (solid silver) with ribbon	\$125
Rhodesian General Service Medal ribbon – full size	\$10/length
Rhodesian General Service Medal miniature (solid silver) with ribbon	\$40
Rhodesian General Service Medal ribbon - miniature	\$10/length
Rhodesian replica rugby jerseys – short or long sleeve	\$110
New item Rhodesian Police Long Service Medal full size copy (solid silver) with ribbon	\$160
Rhodesian flag 3' x 5' (900mm x 1500mm) ready to fly	\$40
Rhodesian Flag, embroidered 110mm x 50mm	\$20
New item Southern Rhodesia War Service Medal full size copy (solid silver) with ribbon	\$150
Unofficial Rhodesian Combat Infantry Badge full size	\$22.50
New item Unofficial Rhodesian Combat Infantry Badge miniature	\$15
Various medal ribbons – please inquire	POA
Various full size & miniature medals – please inquire	POA
Various small embroidered badges (RLI & BSAP)	\$5
Zimbabwe Independence Medal copy - full size with ribbon	\$50
Zimbabwe Independence Medal full size ribbon	\$10/length
Zimbabwe Independence Medal miniature with ribbon	\$35
Zimbabwe Independence Medal miniature ribbon	\$10/length
'Zippo' type lighter – “Rhodesia 1890 – 1980” with Lion & Tusk	\$25

Watch this space for new items coming on stream in the future

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.



History of the Rhodesia Regiment book project



Support has been pouring in for this project – thank you. We are keen to receive any material relating to the Rhodesia Regiment, in particular to the 2nd Battalion Rhodesia Regiment during the First World War. The Battalion was stationed in East Africa and disease took terrible toll on the unit. We would like to get copies of any material that families may have archived away in scrap books.

We look forward to your continued support, so please keep sending you material contributions through to:
Hugh Bomford hbomford@clear.net.nz
Chris Cocks info@30degreessouth.co.za

The Global Forked Stick

Rhodesia Regiment Intake 142

Conn Wood is trying to get a copy of his intake photo. If you were in the same intake or can help please email him on connjwood@gmail.com

Umtali High Centenary Celebrations

You are invited to the Umtali High Centenary Celebration Reunions. The reunions are not limited to UBHS and UGHS ex-pupils. The are open to anyone who has a connection with Umtali/Mutare.

The events celebrate the 100th Anniversary of Umtali High School. Although the first school opened in Old Umtali in 1895 with 12 students, 1909 is recognised as the beginning of Umtali High which was the year that the two church run high schools amalgamated to form the Umtali High School as a government institution.

The planned reunions are as follows:

- Brisbane, Australia Saturday 12th September 2009 - contact Ray Thorne mr.cheese@bigpond.com
- London, England Saturday 12th September 2009 - contact Adrienne Chapman dawntaylor957@btinternet.com
- Cape Town, South Africa 6pm Friday 2nd October 2009 - Contact Cynthia McLachlan cdm@worldonline.co.za
- Auckland, New Zealand Saturday 3rd and Sunday 4th October 2009 - Contact Malcolm & Alice Davidson ph 09 832 6470 or email jasdrama@xtra.co.nz
- Pretoria, South Africa Saturday 10th October 2009 - contact George & Vanessa Galanakis vanessa@galaway.co.za
- South Eastern USA Venue and date to be announced - Contact Will Fleshman wfleshman@cfl.rr.com
- Durban, South Africa Sunday 1st November 2009 - Contact Roy Hendry hendryba@telkomsa.net
- Port Elizabeth, South Africa Venue and date to be announced - Contact Trevor Walton trevorwalton44@hotmail.com
- Harare, Zimbabwe Saturday 19th December 2009 - Contact Briv Baxter brivbax@hotmail.com

Please distribute this invitation to anyone you know who may be interested. If you wish to organise a reunion in your neck of the woods please contact Ray Thorne at mr.cheese@bigpond.com so the event details can be publicised via the Old Borderer website and Umtali Facebook Groups.

John Edmond - Roan Antelope Music

To order go to www.johnedmond.co.za or Tel: +27 (0) 14 735 0774 Fax: +27 (0)86 601 1817 or email: info@johnedmond.co.za

INTAF - Para-Military Civilians in Rhodesia's Bush War



Objective:

To gather and assimilate written, diagrammatic and photographic material so as to produce and publish into the public domain, a book which details the role of the Rhodesian Ministry of Internal Affairs in the country's bush war, and by so doing, assure that this part of the legacy of what was Rhodesia will be recorded for posterity.

The Team:

The participants, Dudley Wall, Gerry van Tonder and Lewis Walter are representative of the wide range of Intaf members involved in the war. They are bound together by the mutual determination to produce a record that shall be a credit to both Intaf and Rhodesia. They strongly believe that the need and desire for the Internal Affairs story to be told totally precludes personal ambitions of individual or financial gain at the expense of the prime objective.

The Book:

The contents of the publication are important, and to ensure a wide readership, need to appeal as much to the casual reader, as to the historian. It should hold attraction for the collector of Rhodesiana and, indeed, for anyone who once called themselves a Rhodesian.

It is also clearly understood that the biggest part of the story that needs to be told is Intaf's unusual para-military role in the Bush War. Intaf's role as civilians fighting a bitter terrorist war in an under-equipped and largely unrecognised para-military capacity is unique. It was an equal partner in the war and this does not detract from the traditional role. We made the traditional role work during the war and that was our job!

A fairly brief history will be included, serving as an important foundation, and giving the reader a full understanding of what Intaf actually was.

Material:

To this end, written and pictorial material and contributions from original sources is sought, and constructive comment will be welcomed.

Such material is being sought from those Intaf members who were involved, be they IANS, cadets, vedettes, field staff, training staff, DO's, ADC's, DC's, PC's, etc.

Comment from other forces, Government officials and individuals who worked closely with Intaf in the field is particularly welcome.

This list is not exhaustive, but serves as an indicator of the kind of material we are after, and will therefore hopefully assist you in compiling your contribution:

- CV's, Keeps and PV's – the political decision and the implementation
- Ops Overload and Stronghold and others
- National Service Military Training at Chikurubi Uniforms and Ranks
- Weapons, vehicles and equipment, including personal, and communications
- The role of protector and trying to retain traditional role
- Patrols, contacts and tales of bravery: Risks and dangers Awards and citations
- Mine warfare
- Territorial Echelons – IANS and vedettes ARU's Air Wing
- Horse Troops
- Hearts and Minds (Psyac), including Ground Cover COMOPS, JOC's, Sub-JOC's – interaction with other forces and Guard Force
- Role in the cease-fire and preparations for the elections Assembly points and liaison with terrorists Monitoring forces, Bobbies and Commonwealth Forces
- The Elections and the New Order – Home Affairs Dismantling of PV's and winding down

The authors details:

Material may be forwarded to one of the following:

- Dudley Wall 47 Stukeley Road Basingstoke RG21 8XD United Kingdom email: dudleywall@yahoo.co.uk
- Gerry van Tonder 47 Hollis Street Alvaston Derby DE24 8QW United Kingdom email: g.van-tonder@sky.com
- Lewis Walter 9 Banks Road Fish Hoek 7975 South Africa email: lewiswalter@xsinet.co.za

Do you have something to share? If so, why not preserve it permanently! Do you know of other Intaf members who may also like to participate? We will assist with proof-reading and editing of material we receive.

Extract from 'Stand To' June – July 2009 ('Stand To' is the Australian Returned Services League newspaper)
"Help wanted for 'trapped' veterans."

The RSL has received a plea from Tom Benyon, founding trustee of ZANE: Zimbabwe A National Emergency.

He writes, "As you will appreciate, the predicament of many of the World War II veterans and their widows who find themselves either through age or infirmity effectively trapped in Zimbabwe is dire. The Mugabe regime has allowed inflation to effectively destroy their pensions and their assets. Today many look to ZANE as their lifeline and providers of vital food, financial support and medicines. ZANE needs to raise further funds as the position in Zimbabwe worsens month by month. As many ex Rhodesian and Zimbabwe nationals have moved to Australia, ZANE has been invited to appeal by several groups of donors and supporters who live in different states. ZANE would give Australians a way to help relatives and friends facing a desperate situation in Zimbabwe. Please send donations by post to: ZANE, PO Box 451, Witney OX28 9FY England with cheques payable to ZANE: Zimbabwe A National Emergency More information: www.ZANE.UK.com "

Jim Barker

If anyone knows contact details for **Jim Barker**, author of "Paradise Plundered" please tell him that Des Roy (email des.roy@actrix.co.nz) from New Zealand is trying to make comms with him.

Seeking friends from Umtali

Stella Abrams nevandstell@iinet.net.au is trying to locate an old friends from Umtali. Stella's maiden name was Kok and her mother was Polish. She is trying to contact:

Helen Stewart who married John Batting and moved to South Africa (possibly East London). Her brother is Dennis Stewart and her late sister, Hilary who was married to Richard Palmer.

Sancha Murray who was very artistic and her mother was Polish.

Coranne Roper (nee **Fitzmaurice**) who married Pat and they were last living in Botswana but could have moved to Johannesburg.

Until next time - go well.

Cheers
Hugh

This newsletter is compiled by Hugh Bomford, 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.

If for any reason you would like to be removed from the mailing list, please send an email to hbomford@clear.net.nz with the word 'remove' in the subject line or body.