



Contact! Contact!

September 2009

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,

Having spotted a book, and at first glance, noted a number of references to Rhodesia, I contemplated buying *NZSAS – The First Fifty Years* by Ron Crosby. On my second trip to the book shop I flicked to the index again and began reading the parts on Rhodesia. On the strength of what I read I immediately decided against spending \$65. In my opinion what Crosby wrote in reference to Rhodesia and our C Squadron SAS's service in Malaya, is not possible to comment on politely. The author, who according to his billing on the fly, holds a degree in law but does not appear to have any military experience a point which may explain some of the garbage he wrote in connection to Rhodesia. His accusations of racism and illness, are copied from the rubbish written by another 'proclaimed expert' on SAS history, Tony Gerghaty. Gergahty is the only other author on SAS history that I have ever read who has cast aspersions on Rhodesia.

Inaccurate comments in books that are in direct conflict with reality endanger relationships. I believe that former Rhodesian SAS and other Rhodesian Special Forces currently enjoy an excellent relationship with the New Zealand SAS Association, 22 SAS and other worthy organisations thus demonstrating that soldiers are above hack journalists seeking sensationalism and a quick buck. A veteran of the Bush War in Rhodesia was recently at the SAS HQ in Hereford, England. He told me that he met with SAS operators all so young, and even their commander, were not born prior to the renaming of Rhodesia. He asked them "Why are you interested in us?". The reply was that they (the Rhodesians) were the experts; that they had 'been there and done that'; that the SAS admired them and wanted to learn from them. In our old way of definition – the Rhodesians were the *main munnors*.

It disturbs me that someone writes such poorly researched garbage so that once again Rhodesians take a slap in the face by some ill informed journalist too idle to objectively seek the truth. I quote from Crosby's book: "*C Squadron had its own peculiar difficulties. It had been raised by the first commander of 22 SAS Regiment, Brigadier Mike Calvert, from volunteers he selected in Rhodesia. However, these men did not adjust well to the jungles of Malaya, being much affected by jungle illnesses. Disappointingly, too, their racial awareness meant they seemed unwilling to embrace the new 'hearts and minds' policy the SAS was starting to use with the aborigines, which was beginning to pay dividends in a flow of information to the other squadrons. In 1955 they returned to Rhodesia, leaving the regiment short of a squadron.*"

If Mr Crosby was going to stray from his title and subject, that being the New Zealand SAS, then I hold that he should have done some research rather than resorting to repetition of unoriginal inaccuracies. His research could

have included our Association and the SAS Association of Southern Africa which are not too difficult to find on the internet. The Rhodesian Services Association would gladly and rapidly have put Mr Crosby in touch with a number of people who could have helped him. He could even have done research from the excellent books available on the history of the Rhodesian SAS such as *SAS Rhodesia* by Pittaway and Fourie or *The Elite* by Barbara Cole. Mr Crosby could even have done what I did and pick up the phone to a member of the Rhodesian Services Association who lives in Mount Maunganui, New Zealand who was in the C Squadron and served in Malaya. Not only that, but our member is a New Zealander who was farming in Rhodesia prior to volunteering for service in Malaya. What better reference and interview could Crosby have obtained? When I called our member and asked him about this accusation of racism and poor health he said "**What rubbish.**"

That quote says it all and with which I will close on this subject. I reiterate that these comments are my personal views and are directed at the author alone. This is not meant as a review of his book. I am directing comment on his reference on pages 49 and 50 and nothing else in his book.

As you see from the above a moan is good for the soul and so on to something lighter to cheer us up. This email deserves a gold medal! It came from a former SAS operator who, owing to where he now lives, needs to have his identity suppressed. His military pedigree includes his father who was British Paras in WWII and an uncle who was co founder of the LRDG. He wrote:

"I am getting a sick and tired of whinging poms saying that the Taliban are killing so many of them because they don't have enough choppers, only soft skinned Landrovers.

A long time ago another army in another place faced a similar problem. Their solution then was, and apparently still is, quite unique: para train more soldiers and chuck them out of planes. You can always come back and fetch them later by helicopter when the rush is over.

At the battle of Rorke's Drift, eleven Victoria Crosses were given out, most of which went to the Warwickshire Regiment of Foot (renamed the South Wales Regiment two years later) for beating off a couple of thousand Zulu. 160 odd Brits against 4000 Zulu (assuming that someone could count that many Zulu in the dark in any case!) The action occurred just after the Brits had been thoroughly stonked at Isandlwala, that same morning. Standard practice in British military history is to bring out the gong bucket whenever there is a stuff up. Rorke's Drift was no exception to this practice. Apart from these eleven VCs, they also gave one to a Private who rescued someone from drowning in the same river.

In another war, in another time and place, there was an action where 183 soldiers attacked a camp containing 11,000 defenders who were dug in, well armed and supported by 12.7mm and 14.5mm anti aircraft weapons that were also used in an anti personnel roll as well. At least 2,000 defenders were killed and perhaps an equal number wounded. Only one of the attacking force was killed. The next day many of the 183 were deployed on another camp attack where hundreds more were killed, without loss.

No medals. This was Op Dingo at Chimoio.

Let us remember that in the British action against the Zulus, the Zulus were mainly armed with assegais. Some did have firearms, not "modern" Martini-Henrys, but firearms nevertheless. These weapons were deployed from elevated sniper positions and inflicted most of the fifteen deaths that the Brits suffered in the action.

Brit Paras and SAS rescued some British idiots who had been captured by Siera Leone gooks in the 90s, I think. They gave out about ten medals for that effort.

Sadly, the people who put the Great into Britain went out to build an Empire for them. Many now reside in its remnants and cannot reside in Britain ever again."

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.

The Rhodesian Services Association extends condolences to Phee Fletcher whose husband **Johne Fletcher** died on the 7th August 2009 from a heart attack.

Janine Walls wrote:

*"Hi Hugh, could you mention in your next newsletter that my mother, **Joan Bradfield**, passed away on the 9th July 2009, in Harare, after a short illness.*

She was married to my father, John Bradfield, who attested into the BSAP in 1949 (I think) Reg. No. 4555. He reached the rank of Senior Asst. Commissioner and was the youngest Rhodesian born officer to do so I believe. He retired in 1978 and died in 1996."

Gus Mason wrote:

"Many of you will remember 'C.G.' Tracy, the well known farmer and businessman who passed away on 20th July in Harare at age 85. 'C.G.' was Liza Leaver's dad, and our condolences go out to her and Terry."

*Rob Anderson advised us of the death on Wednesday morning the 12th August 2009 of **Bob Reith** ex Director of Military Police. He passed away at the Athol Evans Hospital in Cranborne."*

Eddy Norris (ORAFS) wrote:

*"**Tony Cannon** died on the 14th March 2009. He was cremated and his ashes were sprinkled at Voelvlei Dam between Wellington and Tulbagh, (South Africa) where he used to do his sailing, which he loved to do. Tony was born on the 3rd July 1925. Tony was a direct entry member of Ground Equipment, Rhodesian Air Force. (Information made available by Henry Kane)."*

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.

- **Jimmy Swan** – Australia

Also being sought:

Alan Trevor Beach

Chris Saxby, MOD Police, 17 Port and Maritime Reg, McMullen Barracks, Marchwood, Hampshire, England SO40 42G is keen to contact his friend who was RLI and Selous Scouts apparently. Chris Saxby has not supplied an email address unfortunately only the postal above. Please make direct contact with him if you can assist.

Rifleman C.H. McKenzie

John Redfern writes:

*"The Flame Lily Foundation in South Africa has the Rhodesian General Service Medal awarded to **Rifleman C.H. McKenzie**. They would like to hand it to the rightful owner if he can be traced. Please contact John Redfern at rasa@iafrica.com"*

October RV – Labour Weekend 23rd – 26th October 2009

More details can be found further down under "What's On in New Zealand". I sent an email out with full details of this annual event. If you did not get it or know someone who is interested please contact me.

We run this weekend on an 'at cost' basis and for that reason the margins for error are very small. The funding for the event is not done by the Association – it is done by yours truly and his long suffering wife with any profits being donated to the Association. For the smooth running and therefore stress free environment, I ask that you get your ticket booked and paid for as soon as possible. There is a lot of work that has to be done and it is a lot easier if I can do that work in my own time and not be forced into doing things at the last minute.

Please contact your friends and make a commitment to coming along. It is a great weekend and it is open to everyone.

RV Annual Auction

We still require items for the auction. Please contact Paul Nes paulnes@xtra.co.nz if you have something to donate. We would like items of reasonable quality, this does not mean expensive, but we want to avoid the auction becoming a jumble sale. Steve Geach will be presiding over the auction and all who have attended in the past will know that Steve's performance is worth the entry fee alone.

Rhodesian District Service Medal

Prompted by recent requests for information and to clear up who is entitled to wear the Rhodesian District Service Medal (pictured below), I asked a number of people more knowledgeable than me for information. I am grateful to Dudley Wall, Gerry van Tonder, Lewis Walter and Tony Fraser for their input.



Rhodesian District Service Medal



'Oliphant' device on ribbon

The Rhodesian District Service Medal (DSM) was only awarded to black District Assistants and District Security Assistants. No white member of the Rhodesian Security Forces should have been awarded one unless by complete accident. The criteria for being awarded this medal was exactly the same as for the Rhodesian General Service Medal (RGSM) i.e.: For service on operations undertaken for the purposes of combating terrorist or enemy incursions into Rhodesia.

Dudley Wall notes:

"For some unknown reason the Government felt that African members of Intaf in uniform were not eligible for the RGSM (whereas whites were) and therefore brought out the DSM specifically. Ironically many African members of Intaf were ex Rhodesian African Rifles and held the RGSM anyway. I had several ex RAR chaps (and one ex Kings African Rifles medic.) in my ARU Troop and they were awarded both the RGSM and the DSM"

Lewis Walter notes:

"Our DAs and DSAs were in closer and more intimate contact with the terrors than most of the other forces, as well as living full time in operational areas. I cannot understand what contorted thinking from our leaders deprived them of the right to receive the RGSM - something which I know caused them deep hurt"

Also pictured above is the Intaf Commendation emblem (device) on DSM ribbon. This was Intaf's equivalent of the Military Forces Commendation (pick) and BSAP's Commissioner's Special Commendation (baton) and British Mentioned in Dispatches (MID). It depicts an ancient war horn known as an "oliphant". The same emblem is on the badge Intaf wore on their headgear. White members of Intaf who were awarded the commendation, wore it on their Rhodesian General Service Medal ribbon.

Air Rhodesia Viscount VP-WAS 'Hunyani' Goes Down 3rd September 1978

I have received a number of emails regarding the anniversary of the shooting down and subsequent murder of some of the survivors resulting in 48 deaths in total.

Keith Nell wrote reminding that he is writing a book on this disaster. His website is www.viscountdown.com

I was also sent the link to this website http://rhodesian.server101.com/silence_is_deafening.htm which has the contents of the Very Reverend John da Costa, Anglican Dean of Salisbury's sermon and includes a clip of his speech known to all of us as 'The Deafening Silence'.

I would like to include on the Rhodesian Services Association website a list of important dates. Is there anyone who receives this newsletter prepared to collect and compile these for me for their inclusion on the site. Person/s interested please contact me.

Exerts from 'The Bantu Mirror'

Recently my wife Diana came across some interesting cuttings recently during her research for the Intaf book project that she has agreed to supply material for. These cuttings are from *The Bantu Mirror*, a newspaper that was published in Bulawayo in a number of languages including English, Shona, Ndebele, Nyanja. It was distributed through Northern and Southern Rhodesia, Nyasaland and also parts of Bechuanaland. These cuttings were part of her grandfather, Charles Bullock's, scrap books. Charles Bullock was Chief Native Commissioner (C.N.C.) as well as Secretary for Native Affairs. He was highly regarded by all and instrumental in setting up the standards that were used by Intaf up until the end of responsible government in Rhodesia in 1980.

Reading through these and other family scrap books only serves to highlight how poorly we were dealt to by the world. Clear thinking people have to wonder when countries such as America and Australia, whose records with their indigenous peoples left a lot to be desired, managed to dictate our eventual demise by interfering in our affairs. Had we been able to deal with matters ourselves and been supported instead of criticised and slapped with

sanctions who knows how things might have turned out. Perhaps we might have been the 'bread basket' instead of the 'basket case' that now requires the financial support of all those who used to opposed Rhodesia.

"An Appreciation by T.D. Samkange, Bantu Mirror Sept 1936

Sir,

Will you allow me a space in your valuable paper to say a word in appreciation to our father the Chief (the C.N.C) for the keen interest and sympathy he shows in his dealing with us, and the desire he has to listen patiently to our views on matters affecting us.

It is obvious that he is fully alive to the welfare of the native people of this Colony over whom he is the Chief. We feel assured that our interests in his hands, would not be sacrificed, and that he would contribute enormously in maintaining and strengthening the bond of confidence which most of the thinking natives have in him.

It is impossible in this short article to enumerate the various ways in which our present Chief has already since his appointment shown his whole hearted desire for the development and progress of our people socially and economically. Those of us who have already had on various occasions, the privilege of interviewing him both here and in his Office in Salisbury, on matters affecting our people, and saw his future plans for the development of our people, cannot but look for a hopeful future. It inspires hope and great encouragement to have a Chief who listens patiently to the complaints and views of his people.

It is fitting that the Native people give him the name of "Love never finishes (Rudo haruperi) (Utando kalupeli). We pray for God's Grace to be given him in his very important work handling our affairs as head of the N.A. Dept.

Finally I would like to mention, not the least, our Superintendent (Mr Benzies) and the Acting Superintendent of Natives (Mr. Johnston) whose sympathy and desire to assist us in various ways is evident. The attitude of the Natives will only change from taking them a "Oppressors to Up lifters" when all the Officials have taken the attitude and the spirit of its Chief and the Super I have cited above and many good N.Cs. which is appreciated very much by all sections of the Native Community.

We are not unmindful of the great service being rendered by many good N.Cs, we are deeply conscious of the value of the N.D. and sincerely appreciate its service, and we hope the good feeling towards the N.D. which is growing on the Native side will continue.

*I am, etc.,
Thomson D. Samkange
Box 82,
Bulawayo"*

"We Stand or Fall With You – Leading Chief Supports Government, Bantu Mirror War Special Edition 12th September 1939

At Mrewa on the 7th instant a gathering of about a thousand Natives with Chief Mangwendi and Headmen listened with marked attention while the Chief Native Commissioner (Mr Charles Bullock) accompanied by Mr Lindsay Oliver, N.C. outlined the causes of the War and explained to them the Government's wishes as to their attitude and duty. The Chief Native Commissioner who was in charge of Mrewa District when the Great War of 1914 broke out (during the absence on sick leave of the late Mr W. Edwards, N.C.) reminded the Natives that wild rumours were then spread by foolish people; and informed the Natives that periodical abstracts of news would be furnished through the Native Commissioners so that all Natives would know where they could learn the truth.

At the end of his address the Chief Native Commissioner said "This is a time when we all stand together to do our duty under His Majesty the King." Chief Mangwendi replied "We stand or fall with you". With quiet solemnity the whole of the Natives present then affirmed their loyalty to the King and the government of this Colony.

The C.N.C. proceeds to Bulawayo to meet Natives in that neighbourhood."

The True Rhodesian

Colin Neilson sent me this poem titled 'The True Rhodesian' from the Rhodesian Herald circa 1930. We have reproduced one of Colin's articles in an earlier newsletter. Colin wrote the Cabbages and Kings column in the Rhodesian Herald for fourteen years from 1977. Cabbages and Kings was started by the late Colin Black in 1939.

The towering and embattled clouds, red castles in the sky,
Had all begun a-drooping down upon the hills to lie.
I stood with one companion, a true Rhodesian he,
Whose face lit up to see the sun's last dying ecstasy.
The look upon his face was such as caused a man to think,
But all the true Rhodesian said was: "Gosh, I need a drink !"

Like a sign before the portal of some tavern in the clouds,
The crescent moon was riding through its still-emblazoned shrouds.
The wind was soft and sweetened by the scents of veld at dusk;
The night was but a new-born babe, the day was just a husk.
The true Rhodesian raised his head, he said : "My tonsils shrink,
The day is done. I say, old boy, why don't we have a drink ?"

I introduced him to a girl whose face was like a flower,
Who gentle was as any dove in any sylvan bower,
Whose lips were rose's petals red, a brim with maiden dew,
Whose figure C.B. Cochran would admire as much as you,
Whose melting glance a message gave : "I hope our souls will link;"
But the true Rhodesian turned away and said : "I need a drink".

When saintly Peter bars the way to Paradise above,
To the nectar of the gods and to the Heavenly hours' love,
When all the whiskey's poured and drunk, when all the beer has fled,
When all the sundown times have passed, with clouds of gold and red; I wonder if Rhodesians true (as through the door they slink)
Will turn to Saintly Peter and say: "Now, what about a drink?"

F.C.J.

Note – C.B. Cochran was a famous theatrical figure in the 20s and 30s and produced many West End revues

Rhodesian Air Training Group WWII

The world may little care nor long remember the achievements of a small country called Rhodesia where in only ninety years a very few men and women of courage, vision, dedication and integrity created a land of prosperity, stability and good governance. At the insistence of world opinion, orchestrated by the British left wing, all that was cast aside as Zimbabwe descended into darkness, corruption, economic ruin, chaos, political thuggery and dictatorship.

One of the significant achievements of Rhodesia has to be in the Empire Air Training Scheme (E.A.T.S.) that trained 168,882 aircrew including 75,000 pilots and 40,000 navigators of which massive total 8,325 were trained in Southern Rhodesia. In 1938 when the alarm bells rang or were finally heard in Britain, the Air Ministry belatedly realised that it would be unable to train the large numbers of aircrew required due to climate, air space and hostile action. The call then went out to the "Empire" for help.

The first significant prompt response came from Salisbury where Lt. Colonel Charles Meredith (Dept.of Defence) quickly recognised the peril and gained the support of Prime Minister Godfrey Huggins who promised the full support of Southern Rhodesia to Britain in meeting the crisis. Under the terms of this assistance, freely offered, Rhodesia undertook to provide and pay for all the following:

1. All the land required, all the buildings, all the quarters and all the technical facilities.
2. All the barrack and domestic equipment.
3. All the Headquarters costs.
4. All the pay and allowances for all the Rhodesian personnel involved or seconded.
5. All 'make-up' pays for Rhodesians serving outside Rhodesia's borders.

It has been estimated that these costs amounted to eleven million pounds and were found from a tax paying population of only 45,000 people.

The colours were raised at the first facility of the Rhodesian Air Training Group (R.A.T.G.) at R.A.F. Belvedere (Salisbury Civil Airport) on 24th May 1940, the very day Boulogne fell to the German Army. This was the first E.A.T.S. fully operational facility to open anywhere.

At its peak the R.A.T.G. included flying training schools at Belvedere, Mount Hampden, Guinea Fowl, Thornhill, Wollandale, Kumalo, Heaney and Ntabazinduna. Of these Thornhill (where Ian Smith completed his 'ab initio' flying training) later became a main base of the R.R.A.F. Heaney was the last to close in 1954 when the need for pilots declined at the end of the Korean war and became the depot of the Rhodesian African Rifles now long vanished into history.

In addition, the R.A.T.G. included the following ancillary facilities – a bombing school, a navigation school, a gunnery school, six relief landing grounds, two air firing and bombing ranges and one instructor school. It is not recorded where these facilities were located.

It is interesting to note that, whilst a greater number of aircrew were Canadian trained, that scheme started later, finished earlier and was 'encouraged' by a subsidy of CA\$800,000 from Southern Rhodesia in the face of some hesitation.

What a magnificent achievement from a small but proud country – RHODESIA *SIT NOMINE DIGNA*

Article compiled by Clive Tunley from research material at the R.N.Z.A.F. Museum and Library, Wigram, New Zealand.

First published in "The Kiwi Outpost" magazine of the B.S.A. Police (Auckland Branch).

Raising Money Kiwi Style (with an African flavour)

For some time we have considered raising money for our Association projects by way of running 'sausage sizzles'. I do not know what the rest of the world calls them but here in Kiwiland you come across 'sausage sizzles' outside shopping centres and hardware stores at the weekends attended to by groups raising money for sports teams and the like. The smell of cooking onions generally permeate the olfactory receptors, signal goes to the stomach and lo; money exchanges hands in return for a piece of bread surrounding a sausage and onions.

Colin and I have, for a long time, discussed how we should go about running a food stall but instead of only having sausages to offer, to have borewors rolls as well for the more discerning customer. The opportunity arose to run one outside a local gun and militaria show held over two days.

Thorough planning was done. This was a big deal for us as we were going to outlay a reasonable sum of money and it was a completely unknown territory that we were stepping into. The weather being considered of vital importance we watched various long range forecasts and the prospects did not look good. On the eve of the show we shifted the trailer mounted braai (supplied at no charge by the butcher, Export Meat Warehouse) on site as well as some of the ancillary gear that included a gazebo (green and white of course!) that was part of our capital outlay.

Saturday arrived as so did the forecast heavy rain and wind. True to ourselves and terrified of failure, we soldiered on. We ran three hour shifts with everyone getting respite from the weather except Colin and myself. By the end of the day we were saturated and bugged but seemingly we had a good haul of cash and none of the volunteers had complained.

On Sunday we had slightly less rain and as a consequence the job was a lot easier. In the final tally we made a profit of a little over \$500. This was a hard way to make that sum of money but we learned a lot from it. Despite the weather everyone had a memorable time. It was a good place to meet and talk to people. We made a lot of new contacts and it was excellent exposure for our Association. Next year we intend to have better shelter and a little closer to the entrance to the show. So as we have always said "next year will be better".

Finally a very big "thank you" to all who helped, especially those who worked on both days; those who helped clean up at the end and the tough bugger who despite a detaching his Achilles tendon on Saturday, turned up for duty on Sunday, went to hospital on Monday and had the offending tendon sewn back on – "good on ya mate".



Tony Griffiths on the tongs while his wife Lila and Greg O'Carroll serve a customer on Sunday



Ready for action on Sunday - Percy Purcell, Ashley Birkbeck, Andy Burness and Colin Logie. Note the very smart aprons!

Apologies for the quality of the photos but I was keen to keep my camera dry!

While we were slaving away on the outside our Curator, Tony Fraser, was staying dry and winning the top prize for the Edged Weapons Display with his entry pictured below. His display of khukuris included three khukuris from my family – my great grandfather Jack Manners-Smith VC, my grandfather Sir Hugh Bomford and my father Peter Bomford MC. Good work Tony. Tony, Colin and I import khukuris from Nepal which we market as a small hobby business. These are the genuine article made by a company supporting ex Gurkhas. See www.khukuirimports.co.nz for more information.



Museum News

I never ceases to amaze me what impact this Association has world wide. My ultimate goal is that one day we have a building of our own that is our base and house for our museum collection. How we achieve this I do not know but what I do know is that it will happen. We are only limited by our commitment. Thanks to all who have committed themselves and continue to support us – every little bit counts.

We have plans to make changes to our displays at the Hauraki Battalion Hall as well as the Classic Flyers Museum. There is new material that needs to be shown. Hopefully this will be achieved, dependant on work commitments and the various problems that the recession has thrown in our path that prevents us having quality time. Never the less, good progress has been made at the Classic Flyers and we have revamped the one display which features the Rhodesian Air Force through the years from David Lewis getting shot down by the 'Red Baron' in 1918 up to 1980.



Revamped display cabinet featuring new items and donors listed below Left – Right:

Various Rhodesian pilot's wings – Steve Kesby

Rank badges – Chuck Osborne

RRAF crest off the Thornhill gates – Blake & Jane Few

Wing Commander Bill Jelley's flight suit and boots – Jelley family

For some time now we have sought to find or have a computer program built that can adequately catalogue and track all the items in the museum collection. We have been introduced to a programme called PastPerfect which is specifically designed for and is widely used by small museums in New Zealand. The cost of the programme and a new computer to drive it will be in the region of NZ\$5000. That translates into a lot of sausage sizzles! Craig Bone, ex RLI and renowned artist, has offered to help us out with the donation of a painting which we will raffle world wide. The Association will need the assistance of all financial members around the world to sell the tickets. We expect to hold the raffle in the beginning of 2010. Information will be released in due course – watch this space!

The Rhodesian Services Association is most grateful to Craig Bone. One of Craig's paintings sold for over US\$100,000 and hangs in the Pentagon. You can view and purchase Craig's and his daughters' works on these websites:

- www.craigbone.com
- www.seanbone.com

Our Library

Anyone who is able to offer their time to assist with the museum projects is most welcome to contact me. In particular we are looking for someone with the skills (or with the time and inclination to learn the skills) to do some covering and repairs to the books that we have in the collection. Our collection of books is increasing all the time. While these books cannot be lent out because many are in a fragile condition, they are an important record and reference facility that is available to suitable persons on request. We would very much like to find someone who could work away at covering and making basic repairs.

Model Aircraft

We are soon to be expanding our display area at the Classic Flyers Museum. We would like to get models of the various Rhodesian Air Force planes and choppers. The size that we would prefer is 1:42. If you can help please contact me.

Regimental Rumours by 'Stompie'

Greetings everyone,

Hope this finds you all well and happy as we go into spring here in New Zealand.

In the last newsletter, we featured The Gremlin Drive-In Restaurant and this has resulted in a few stories from "out there" of the great times spent there. This month, we feature a contribution from Jock Hiddleston who is now living in UK - and here's the story as told in Jock's words. Thanks for your contribution, Jock.

"Howzit Stompie,

My boet in law in S.A sent me a copy of Contact! Contact! and at the end of the page was the Gremmies menu. Man, that brought back memories. As you requested here is a Gremmies Story from 1974:

I used to work at Field Aircraft at Salisbury Airport and had been transferred to Jo'burg. We drove up to Salisbury for a holiday and one Friday night my mate, Ray Davies (ex Rh.A.F.), and I went on boys night out, visiting La Boheme, The Long Bar and many other watering holes.

Many Shumba No.17's later, we ended up at Gremmies. I am, and always have been, a "petrol head" and had bought a Mazda RX2 (Wankel Rotary Engine) in S.A. - this car had amazing performance and a thirst to match.

While noshing our Gremmies chow, I had noticed a chap showing of in his V8 Chevy/Holden Monaro, so encouraged by the Shumba's I told him I could whip his ass.

We tooted out of Gremmies and on to Enterprise road and took off towards Jameson Ave at a rate of knots. As we passed the school that was on the right after the prison, (we were well over 180k/ph by this stage and still accelerating) I noticed a blue flashing light way back in the distance.

The V8 and I stopped at the traffic lights at Enterprise and Jameson and by the time they turned green the cop had still not caught us. We turned right towards town and drove very sedately until the cop in his Peugeot 404 arrived and pulled us over. The poor 404 was hissing and spluttering and did not sound to healthy. The cop crapped all over us for speeding but could not prove a thing as we were too far ahead of him to track us. He then drove off towards town and the V8 and I did a tyre smoking U-turn and raced back to Gremmies for more entertainment and nosh.

I can't remember if I whipped the V8's ass but we ran side-by-side all the way to and from Gremmies. Man, those were the days! My mate Ray is still living in Harare in Greendale and we keep in regular contact by email, or at least our wives do as we are both kak correspondents. I often go on Google Earth and zoom in on old places of my youth in Rhodies. One thing that gave me a kick was that the outline of the old Marlborough race track is still visible. Many an enjoyable Sunday was spent there watching motor sport."

Next month, I'd like to feature L'Coq Dor - and I have no doubt that there are going to be some real crackers coming out of that one! Come on, let's have your contributions - stories of your misspent youth! Send them to me at stompie@rhodesianservices.org

Until next time, go well Cheers all!

Stompie



Grunter's Good Oil

Greetings everyone,

Many thanks for your correspondence where quite a few people have written in with names that I left off my list of cricketers who represented Rhodesia and Zimbabwe, who would rank up there with the top players in world cricket.

The additional names are:

- Hugh Tayfield
- Paul Winslow
- Chris Duckworth
- Geoff Griffin
- Rob Ulyett
- Ray Gripper
- Robin Jackman
- Brian Barbour
- Steve Elworthy

If anyone else thinks of someone let me know so I can add them to our list.

So England won back the Ashes with another Zimbabwean coach in Andy Flower. That makes the last two Ashes victories won by England, done with Zimbabwe coaches. Not bad for an upstart colony!!



Andy Flower with the Ashes

If you are a Springbok supporter, haven't things been great lately? Just one more win (even a draw) to clinch the title. If they do win it will cap a great year, adding the Super 14, Lions Series and Tri Nations trophy's to the cabinet alongside the big one. 'Bill'!

Our excited family has tickets to the Hamilton test where there is quite a large group of us ex Rhodesian/Zimbabweans meeting after the game. Ever since I can remember I have been obsessed with the Springboks and I am happy to report that despite six years in NZ my children are also Springbok fanatics. We can't wait!

It was great to see two Zimbabweans, David Pocock and the 'Beast' opposite each other last week in the Wallaby vs. Bok game. I see Pocock has been giving the start in the No 7 jersey this week. High praise indeed for someone tipped to be the Wallaby captain in the future. David Pocock's father Andy was in Stirling House at Guinea Fowl School.



David Pocock gets tackled



Tendai Mtawarira 'The Beast'

Photo credits:

Cricket from Sky Sport UK website

Rugby from Supersport SA website

Next month I hope to start the Rhodesian Rugby list of players. Either of the two characteristics are required to get onto the list are:

- Great Players
- Hard Men

So send me your names and I will make a start (email fourstreams@clear.net.nz)
Till next month, enjoy and go well.

Cheers
Grunter

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 of the monthly meetings and to get on their mailing list. Their normal gathering is the third Saturday of the month. All welcome.

September 26th 2009. 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. The next movie will be on Friday 11th Sept. 2009 when we will show *The Battle of Long Tan*. This is an award winning documentary of the true story of the bravery of 108 Australian and New Zealand soldiers facing 2,500 Viet Cong in August 1966.

October RV 23rd – 25th October 2009

To be held over **Labour Weekend in New Zealand which is the 23rd, 24th, 25th October 2009** in Tauranga and Mount Maunganui. This is not a 'services only' or 'Rhodesian only' function everyone is welcome to attend.

An email with all details was sent out recently. If you did not get it and want to attend please contact me on hbomford@clear.net.nz ASAP. Please book your accommodation early to avoid disappointment. Tickets must be pre-purchased in order to allow for accurate catering. Please get yourselves organised and pay before the 16th October. Please help to keep my stress levels down and don't leave it to the last minute! It is always a really great weekend. Get a group together and come to the Bay of Plenty for the weekend.

Tauranga Air Show 6th and 7th February 2010

This is to be held in conjunction with the Classic Flyers Museum. Hopefully there will be some involvement from our Association in some form. See www.taurangaairshow.co.nz for more details and to pre purchase entry tickets.

HAMILTON

There are a lot of our members residing in the Hamilton area. Would you not like to get together once a month in an informal manner like Auckland and Tauranga folk do? If you are interested please contact Tinka Mushett mushett@slingshot.co.nz

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 friends or 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 to allow for shipping time, we appreciate as much breathing space as possible.

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.

In our never ending quest for new products we are now stocking khaki aprons as shown below. The Lion & Tusk and 'Rhodesian Services Association' is embroidered on and comes standard. We are happy to add a slogan of your design such as 'Boerie King', 'Grill Sergeant' or anything that amuses you or makes the apron a unique gift. Standard price is \$30. The price for the custom embroidery will be given on request.



These aprons came about as a result of our recent fundraiser food stall reported elsewhere in this publication. Many people commented on them and wanted stock to purchase. We are investigating what is involved with getting them made in a replication of the Rhodesian camo pattern, so if any readers have a connection to a fabric printer please contact me urgently.

The miniature CIBs are also going well. They, as well as the Rhodesian Flag Lapel Pins, are something that can be worn on everyday wear and generally only attract the attention of other Rhodesians or people 'in the know' which makes them a good identifier and talking point.

We are also stocking gold plate Para Wings Lapel Pins. They are the same size (17mm tip to tip) and price (\$15) as the enamel ones that we also stock



We can now have the business card holders engraved with the following badges on request:

- RLI
- SAS
- BSAP
- Rhodesian Coat of Arms

We are very grateful to Dudley Wall for making his drawings available to us for these and other engraving projects.

The CQ Store is our biggest source of income and it is from this that we are able to make improvements to our museum collection. Your support is therefore very welcome and much appreciated.

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 – gold plate or Enamel	\$15
Lapel Pin – Rhodesian Flag	\$10
New Product! Lion & Tusk Aprons	\$30
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
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
Southern Rhodesia War Service Medal full size copy (solid silver) with ribbon	\$150
Unofficial Rhodesian Combat Infantry Badge full size	\$22.50
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

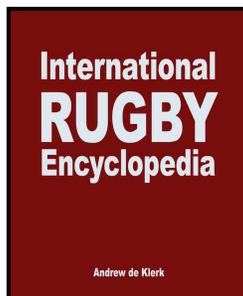
Watch this space for new items coming on stream in the future

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.

We have a wide range of stock including recently arrived author signed copies of *Fireforce* by Chris Cocks and *Counter Strike From The Sky* by Richard Wood. These are not being sold at a premium price.

We are currently working on the release of the International *Rugby Encyclopaedia* by Andrew de Klerk. It is hoped that the launch will coincide with the final Tri-Nations test in Wellington on the 19th September 2009. Books will be available world wide. Contact Chris at info@30degreessouth.co.za for more details or myself hbomford@clear.net.nz if you are in New Zealand or Australia.



Hardback 544 pages 260 x 215 / 8½ x 10¼
200 colour & b/w photos

Meticulously compiled, this book has been 18 years in the making. It is the complete international rugby encyclopaedia that presents every single recognized international ever played (since 1871 when Scotland took on England); is well illustrated and structured, featuring stories on the great players to have graced the game, the great matches to have captivated the crowds and the great stadiums to have hosted these internationals, as well as a plethora of rugby trivia.

There is currently no such book on the market and there hasn't been since Chris Rhys published *Guinness Rugby - The Records* in 1987. This publication has the potential to become an annual release.

Andrew de Klerk, with his almost pathological passion for rugby, was born in 1979, and grew up in Grahamstown in the Eastern Cape Province of South Africa. Saturday morning rugby matches were strongly attended and vociferously supported. He was educated at St Andrew's, Graeme College and Rhodes University. His job as an environmental geologist takes him all over the world, which affords him some unique opportunities to check out international rugby matches, stadiums, museums, players and administrators, in his quest for the tiniest detail of a perhaps long forgotten test.



History of the Rhodesia Regiment Book Project



We are still looking for material relating to the Rhodesia Regiment during the Boer War and First World War. Please pull out your scrap books, photo albums, diaries – all material is important to the project and is gratefully received.

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

Warning Order to all Engineers:

Aim: To compile a book of the history of the Rhodesian Corps of Engineers.

Content: Mike Pelham will write the skeleton of the book but wishes to fill it out with info from individuals i.e personal stories.

Mission: To contact as many ex-members of the Corps as possible by networking, and to ask them to submit any information and/or photographs they may have. If possible scan any photographs or documents (at 300 dpi or better) but if originals have to be sent they will be returned in same condition.

Execution: Information may be sent to either Mike Pelham (mike@ardan-africa.com) or Terry Griffin (terry.griffin@liblink.co.za)

This project cannot be completed without your help. For further information contact either of the two aforementioned. It will be good to hear from you anyway.

Best Wishes or as Major Arthur Geddes would have said,
Yours Aye,
Brig (Retd) Mike Pelham (CRE)

Op Uric/Bootlace – The Loss of Puma 164

Neil Jackson has sent a number of requests and emails that I have combined below.

Sunday the 6th September 2009 marks the 30th anniversary of the loss of Puma 164 during Operation Uric (Op Bootlace to the South Africans) - the attack on Mapai in the Gaza Province of Mozambique.

On this day two brave women will be travelling to the crash site in order to pay their respects to their fallen brothers and to the men who died with them on 6th September 1979. Delia Forbes, sister of LeRoy Duberly and Sue Wentzel, sister of Peter Fox will be accompanied by their husbands on this difficult and emotional pilgrimage. Please keep them in your thoughts and prayers next Sunday and perhaps take a moment to remember the brave men at whose graveside they will be standing:

Capt. Paul Velleman SAAF
Lt. Nigel Osborne SAAF
Flt. Sgt. Dick Retief SAAF
Capt. Joe du Plooy RLI
Capt. Charlie Small RhEng
2Lt. Bruce Burns RhEng
Sgt. Michael Jones RhEng
Cpl. LeRoy Duberly RhEng
L/Cpl. Peter Fox RhEng
Cpl. Gordon Fry RLI
Tpr. Jacobus Briel RLI
Tpr. Aidan Colman RLI
Tpr. Mark Jeremy Crow RLI
Tpr. Brian Enslin RLI
Tpr. Steven King RLI
Tpr. Colin Neasham RLI
Tpr. David Rex Prosser RLI



Request for information:

The members of the team which located the crash site of the SAAF Puma shot down in September 1979 are attempting to contact the next of kin of all of the victims.

We are appealing for any information that will assist in contacting the family members or friends of these men. Listed below are the next of kin who have been contacted in the order of contact being made, starting from April 2009. This list is correct at the time of going to press, however efforts to contact other next of kin remain ongoing.

Cpl. Gordon Fry, RLI – brother Eric Fry (brother).
Lt. Nigel Osborne, SAAF – Brett Elam (brother in law); Gareth Vaughan (brother in law); Sally Rutter (sister); Pat Osborne (mother).
Tpr Aidan Colman, RLI - Nora Sharples (sister).
Tpr. Brian Enslin, RLI - Graham Enslin (brother).
Cpl. LeRoy Duberly, Rh Eng - Delia Duberly (sister).
L/Cpl. Peter Fox, Rh Eng - Sue Wentzel (sister).
Capt. Paul Velleman, SAAF - Greg Velleman (brother); Hermien Velleman (sister in law).
Capt. Joe du Plooy, RLI - Heinrich du Plooy (nephew); Juno Groenwald (sister).
Capt. Charles Small, Rh Eng - Liz Woods (sister).
Tpr. Colin Niesham, RLI - Johnny & Zoana Niesham (parents)

We are still attempting to locate family or friends of the following men:

Flight Sergeant **Dick Retief** SAAF
2nd Lieutenant **Bruce Fraser Burns** Rh. Engineers
Sergeant **Michael Alan Jones** Rh. Engineers
Trooper **Jacobus Alwyn Briel** RLI
Trooper **Mark Jeremy Crow** RLI
Trooper **Steven Eric King** RLI
Trooper **David Rex Prosser** RLI

Neill Jackson has been tasked by Rick van Malsen to write up the story of the downed SAAF Puma. During the course of his research into the background of the operation various interesting stories have emerged from the soldiers and airmen who took part in it and the project is expanding into an extremely interesting and moving book. A tribute to the men who took part in the operation and specifically to those who died.

In order to ensure that the full story of Operation Uric (Op Bootlace to the South Africans) gets told Neill requests for any information from those involved so that it can be included in the book.

Any contribution will be considered for inclusion whether it is from pilots and aircrew, frontline soldiers, or back-up and supply teams. Contributions from families and friends of the men who died will be most gratefully received

Please direct any communication to Neill Jackson at neillj@vodamail.co.za regarding these requests above. As with anything like this, I recommend that you ensure that Neill replies in receipt of your email. All too often some electronic glitch takes place and information is lost.

Marandellas War Memorial

Alan Harris has been researching for many years and writes:

"The Marandellas war memorial project is ongoing. I have managed to collect photographs of two of the chaps this year making for a total of thirteen out of the twenty WWII commemorated servicemen. I would be most grateful for your help in locating relatives or photographs of the following who are also named on the memorial:

Baker, Richard Henry - Pilot Officer in the 237 (Rhodesia) Squadron who died of injuries on the 23rd June 1941 and is buried at Ramleh, Israel. He was OC Communications Squadron at Lydda at time of his death. He was educated at Selborne College, East London. The College has a very impressive annual cadet/remembrance service which I always attend.

Edwards, Gordon Charles – Flight Sergeant. He was a radio operator/observer on a Beaufighter night bomber (X7573) that was detailed for a training exercise on the 26th May, 1942. The aircraft flew into high ground in cloud and crashed at Moneyneagh, County Antrim with the loss of all on board.

Henderson, Alister Hugh Seton - Sergeant. He was the pilot of an Oxford (AT603) that was detailed for dual instruction training exercise on the 21st July 1942. The aircraft failed to climb after take off and crashed into trees and farm buildings at Homeleigh Farm near Southrop in Gloucester.

Simpson, Paul Zephanian Tasker - Lance Bombardier in the Royal Horse Artillery. He was killed on the 27th May 1942 and is commemorated on the Alamein Memorial. He was former Ruzawi School pupil and son of the Marandellas Parish Priest.

Watkin, Hugh Geoffrey – Lieutenant in the East African Intelligence Corps. Died on active service on the 16th January 1943 and buried at Mombasa. He also served in WWI as a Captain in the 3rd Battalion Cheshire Regiment. His son John Hugh Watkin MC was killed at Dunkirk.

Wright, Archibald Edward - Lance Bombardier in the Southern Rhodesia Artillery. He accidentally drowned 16th January 1941 and is buried at Nairobi."

If you can help then please mail Alan direct on alanandirene@telkomsa.net

Books In Progress

Jim Barker writes:

"Hi Hugh,

My name is Jim Barker. I was farming in Karoi until kicked off in 2001 sans any compensation, just one of about 4000 others.

During the Hondo I spent six years in the Police Anti Terrorist Unit (PATU) – I was one of the original twelve, and then eight years in the Police Reserve Air Wing (PRAW). My main contribution there was doing 118 stretcher case casevacs. Goodness knows how many sitting cases as I did not log those. I logged just over 1,900 operational hours. It was a wonderful experience. In 1967 after being involved in a contact while with an RLI stick I was lucky enough to get the Police Decoration for Gallantry.

After 2001 I joined Justice for Agriculture later becoming chairman. After nearly five years I felt that I was becoming a bit madala and left to write a book 'Paradise Plundered'. This sold very well and will be going into a third printing soon.

The main reason for writing is that I am involved in another book with Bill Sykes. This is purely anecdotal and we are wanting to collect the sort of stories that are told in pubs and will be lost forever unless recorded. We already have over a hundred tales, some of them hilarious. These do not have to be about the war, in fact any topic will do

as long as the subject is funny, strange or unusual in some way. These stories will be attributed if so wished. After expenses all profits will go to help the aged Euros some of whom have a pretty hard time of it.

I am also involved with another book being written about the PRAW. This is with Auv Raath, if you have any ex serving members we will be very happy to hear from them.

Cheers and keep up the good work,
Jim"

If you can contribute in any way please email Jim at melbar@mweb.co.zw

John Edmond - Roan Antelope Music

Hi Folks,

On 22 August 2009 there was a gathering of 60 Rhodies at Kunkuru Lodge. After a fabulous potjie meal, a concert was given by John and John Ross Edmond which was much enjoyed by all. This was a "celebration of our nation" in song. Just to be a Rhodie in the world is a proud honour and joy!

This month Roan Antelope Music are offering a special on "Rhodesian Centenary Album" and "BSAP Centenary Albums" celebrating the 119th and 120th anniversary respectively of a great nation and a great police force.

On the 13th September 1890 the Union Jack was hoisted at Fort Salisbury, proclaiming the state of Rhodesia and now 119 years later we still cherish the life and the times in that fair land. To celebrate, Roan Antelope Music is offering both our Centenary albums on special for September.

The "Rhodesia Centenary" contains a colourful and interesting mixture of songs by John Edmond, Nick Taylor, Ian and Ritchie, Mike Westcott and not to forget "Rhodesians Never Die" by Clem Tholet.

The BSAP (British South African Police) were formed 120 years ago as escort to the pioneer columns. The legacy of this proud regiment is very much alive today with the BSAP Regimental Associations around the world. This album contains songs about the regiment and a selection by the BSAP Regimental Band. A must have for the collection!

Order today from Roan Antelope Music's website: www.johnedmond.co.za Please note new email address johnedmond@senco.co.za

Special price for BOTH CD'S, includes packaging and postage - SA R250.00 UK £28.00 USA \$53.00 AUS \$68.00 NZ \$76.00

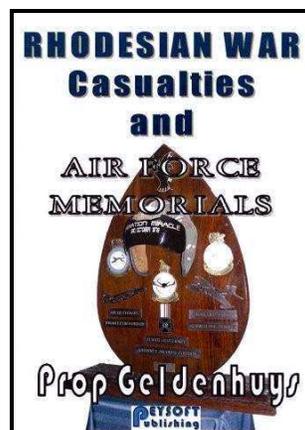
Parts for a Pratt and Whitney Double Wasp motor

The Classic Flyers Museum in New Zealand is busy refurbishing an aircraft motor that was recovered from Guam. They want to use it as a working display. They need induction pipes for a Pratt and Whitney Double Wasp engine (up to 18 I think). These engines were the ones used in the Kittyhawk, Corsair, Thunderbolt, DC 6 and probably others. I am not in the least bit knowledgeable on these things so I am only passing on what I have been asked.

Please pass the word around and if anyone can help please email hbomford@clear.net.nz and I will pass the info on.

Rhodesian War Casualties and Air Force Memorials by Prop Geldenhuys

Another book from stable of the prolific author and former Rhodesian Air Force pilot Prop Geldenhuys is about to hit the shelves



With the 30 year anniversary of Op Uric/Bootlace coming up early September, and Op Miracle in early October as well as memorial services in November, this is a timely production.

Prop writes:

"My intention is to 'gauge the market' so as to decide how many copies to publish. I am presently guessing at only 50 copies, at R200 for the Black and White edition - approx 340 pages. My publisher, John Dovey of Just Done Productions Publishing, has also recommended a much smaller full cover 'coffee table' edition which is only about 24 to 30 pages as well. The colour edition has not been costed, but it would be expected to sell at about R100. Once more accurate numbers are known, a formal quotation will be made.

The book should interest anyone who has lost a relative or close friend during the war 1965 - 1980. The 340 page A5 sized book comes basically in three parts:

- *Rolls of Honour in chronological order (note; the index alone runs to 27 pages);*
- *Listing of the 40 aircraft shot down or lost on operations but specifically revisiting the four crash sites found by Bob Manser / Rick van Malsen in more detail;*
- *The last part concerns pictures and brief write-ups of numerous Memorials / Monuments / Museums / Shrines.*

Dr. Richard Wood kindly gave me permission to expand on his Roll of Honour, and also wrote the Foreword:

"The cry down the generations of 'Lest we forget' rings even more poignantly for the survivors of Rhodesia, many of whom are so far from home and whose country lives only in their memories. If those memories are not captured and published, Rhodesian society will disappear, forgotten. Time passes so rapidly. Already a child born in 1980 is 29 years old and has no direct experience of Rhodesia.

In this and his other books, Prop Geldenhuys supplies not just information of where the memorials are, where names of the lost are to be found, but he has inspired others to join him in seeking out aircraft crash sites in Mozambique and solving other mysteries. The record can never be complete, but, with the aid of the indefatigable Prop, many gaps in it are filled. His consolidation of the rolls of honour, compiled from many sources is of value in itself. Certainly what he has provided will be mined by historians henceforth."

A draft picture of the cover, showing the Operation Miracle Memorial, is attached. The back cover shows the four white crosses - placed at the site where the four aircraft shot down.

Those wanting to secure a copy are requested to email me, Prop, on pey@lantic.net or phone 031-3066408."

6th Battalion (Hauraki) Regimental Association website

Our good friends from the Hauraki Regiment Association have recently launched their own website at www.6haurakiassoc.org.nz

A few years ago Des inherited the job of newsletter editor. Like many he had only a rudimentary knowledge of the workings of a computer. By sticking to the job, a lot of trial and error and with some help he now produces an extensive newsletter in hard copy and by email delivery. Des then learned a lot of new skills and has set up this website. Good one Des, it shows what can be done if you have the desire to promote something that you love.

Trooper A.W. Sparrow (BSAP Reg. No. 260)

Keith Sparrow keith.sparrow@yahoo.co.nz is seeking information on his grandfather Trooper A.W. Sparrow who served with the BSAP during WWI. Please email Keith if you can help.

Falcon Old Boys

The Upper Six 1978 year group at Falcon College, Rhodesia is to meet next year in Cape Town to consider life at 50! A good number have been located but the list below names those not yet located. Please send all correspondence on this to Carl Bruessow carl@mountmulanje.org.mw

Steve Morton, Mike Nugent, Tom Bawden, Graham Cook, Tom McCafferty, Alastair Buchanan, Michael Danks, Kev Langham, Colin Mostert, Swazi Nicholson, Tim Shepperd, Ivan Sly, Mike Smith, Ivan Stubbs, Twik van Wyk, Steve Viviers, Ian Wilson, Martin Keet, Paul Kaufman, Clive Boast.

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.