



## **Rhodesian Services Association Incorporated**

*Registered under the 2005 Charities Act in New Zealand number CC25203*

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## **February 2009 Newsletter**

**Please Note that all previous newsletters are available at**

**[www.rhodesianservices.org/Newsletters.htm](http://www.rhodesianservices.org/Newsletters.htm)**

Greetings,

I will kick off this latest newsletter with some trumpet blowing.

Our newsletter distribution is now to over 900 addresses worldwide. To my knowledge we reach every continent with the exception of Antarctica (the first person to provide proof that they are on Antarctica and receiving our comms gets a specially personalised cap). Our distribution grows every day. As I write this editorial at 9am on a Sunday morning I have just registered two new Rhodesian subscribers, one from New Zealand and one from Russia. Every day our numbers increase. We have around 400 subscribers in NZ.

Our financial membership has exceeded last year's total and we currently have over 125 paid up members. Please consider converting your subscription to paid membership. The paid up membership was instigated in order that, as required of an Incorporated Society, we are able to define who has voting rights. The membership fee was deliberately kept low (NZ\$5) to make it affordable to everyone. Our income is mainly from the annual auction, donations and sale of goods. The income provided by the subscriptions is a welcome addition.

In comparison I believe that there are only two organisations of comparable size to us, ORAFS (Old Rhodesian Air Force Sods) and the Rhodesian Light Infantry Regimental Association. There is, of course, an overlap of members between these three organisations, some people subscribing to two or even all three associations.

I have always tried to avoid Facebook because I am too busy with work and other commitments to spend time on it. However, I am now registered as some of you have found out, but please remember that if you want to communicate with me I prefer direct email. I do acknowledge that Facebook gets a huge amount of attention and is a good resource to find long lost friends and that there is a large number of Rhodesian links on it.

Last month I recorded that there is to be a social gathering at the Hobsonville RSA on 14th February. I hope that plenty of you attend and that it is something that continues in the same way that we have our Curry and Movie nights here in Tauranga

### **Obituaries**

Some months this column is empty, unfortunately not so this month.



**Bill Jelley** collapsed and died on 15<sup>th</sup> January 2009 at his home in Ohope, New Zealand. The Rhodesian Services Association extends condolences to Margaret, Grahame, Keith and their families. Bill was a financial member of the Rhodesian Services Association. I met Bill on a number of occasions and can say that he was a Rhodesian and true gentleman. Bill and Margaret had only been living in New Zealand for about three years but I would have thought that they had been here a lifetime when I saw that the chapel was packed to the gunnels. By far the majority were locals who obviously held the Jelley family in high regard. A sad loss. *Hamba ghashle* Bill.

The obituary below was kindly supplied by John Pringle.

Ave Wing Commander William (Bill) Paterson Jelley, July 1935 to January 2009.

Bill attested into the Southern Rhodesian Air Force March 1954, not long before it was re-designated as the Royal Rhodesian Air Force. He was awarded his Wings on February 26, 1955 and retired from the Air Force of Zimbabwe at the rank of Wing Commander soon after the end of hostilities.

I first met 'Boss Jell' in 1966 when I was a very junior SNCO on the technical team of No 2 Squadron operating Vampires. We switched between the roles of 'Advanced Flying Training' and an 'Operational Conversion Unit' while also maintaining aircraft at operational readiness. I am pretty sure that we were the first squadron Bill commanded and it is a measure of the man that I distinctly remember his arrival and the quiet and resolute way he took control of a very difficult job.

It was interesting to note in A Pride of Eagles describing Op Cauldron, "Air strikes were carried out by No 2 Squadron Vampires flown by Squadron Leader Bill Jelley and Flying Officer Prop Geldenhuys using squash head rocket projectiles and 20mm canon. This was the first occasion that No 2 Squadron had fired a shot in anger and after years of training and innumerable stand-bys, the squadron was glad to have been blooded."

The job did not get any easier for Bill and he was awarded the DMM for his performance as Officer Commanding Flying Wing New Sarum, a post he held between 1972 and 1975. This period was notable in that Bill frequently had to act as Station Commander while continuing to encourage the highest standards of discipline and efficiency from the squadrons under his command. One of those squadrons was No 7 Squadron, Alouette helicopters, well known for performing sterling work while operating throughout the country and always at the sharp end. The others were No.3 (Transport) Squadron and No.5 (Canberra) Squadron. From New Sarum he was posted to headquarters as Staff Officer Training, a role for which he was eminently suited.

Boss Jell; Officer, gentleman, leader, inspiration, and latterly, a respected friend. Thank you, you made the world a better place.

ORAFS reports that **Fred Barlow** died on the 2<sup>nd</sup> January 2009 in Kent, England. He was a member of Air Force Association (UK) and as a Rhodesian WW2 veteran, was a prominent member of the Volunteer Reserve.

ORAFS also reports that **Bob Curtis** (brother of Dave Curtis) passed away in Port Alfred as a result of choking, during the morning of 11 January 2009. He was the Chairman of Curtis Security Fencing in Rhodesia, based at Msasa, he lived in Mandara. He was one of those responsible for erecting security fencing around farm homesteads and BSAP Outposts. Bob was a member of the BSAP Reserve PATU. He was a keen aviator having been an active member of the Mashonaland Flying Club based at Mt. Hampden. He migrated from Zimbabwe to South Africa 15 years ago.

**Wendy Campbell** died in Zimbabwe on 25<sup>th</sup> January 2009. Condolences can be sent to Belinda [sambok@iwayafrica.com](mailto:sambok@iwayafrica.com) or [btaylor@zol.co.zw](mailto:btaylor@zol.co.zw)

**Doreen J. Wrathall**, passed away in her sleep at 04:15hrs Wednesday January 16, 2009. Condolences can be sent to her son Jon Wrathall [jwrathall@tiscali.co.za](mailto:jwrathall@tiscali.co.za)

### Off The Radar

The following people's addresses have gone dead. If you are in comms with them please ask them to contact me

**Gary Albyn** – South Africa

**Keith Wawn** – South Africa

**Tony Seward** – England

I am also trying to regain comms with **Mark Hellam** who has moved to Australia. Don Price is also trying to contact him. If you have an address for Mark please contact me.

Brian Hayes is trying to find **George 'Pappy' Bolton**. George was in the RLI. If you have any information please email Brian at [bhayes@pannar.co.za](mailto:bhayes@pannar.co.za) phone +27 33 4139513 (work) +27 33 4139568 (fax) +27 82 578 1349 (cell)

**Baz Seeber and Roy Casey** were both awarded the Military Forces Commendation in 1978. They were in Intake 155 and based at 4 Indep. Coy at Wankie. If anyone knows them and can put me in contact with them please email [hbomford@clear.net.nz](mailto:hbomford@clear.net.nz)

### Museum update

All our displayed material is open to the public. We have one display at the 6<sup>th</sup> Battalion (Hauraki) Group HQ on the corner of Devonport Road and 11<sup>th</sup> Avenue Tauranga and the other is at the Classic Flyers Museum, Jean Batten Drive, Mount Maunganui. You can go on line and visit this page for background to our displays <http://www.rhodesianservices.org/Museum%20Displays.htm> To view the display at the Hauraki Regiment you can go to the office and ask to be let through or you can come along to the Garrison Club on a Friday after 4pm and be shown around. The Classic Flyers is open 7 days.

From time to time we have requests to escort people around and see the stored items in the Lion's Den. This is fine as long as one of us is available. The Visitor's Book on our display at the Classic Flyers is getting a lot of favourable comments and, as well, emails like this make it all worthwhile.

*"Roy and I wanted to say 'Thank you' for taking the time to show us around the Museum. What you've done there is fantastic and a testament to the kind of people Rhodesians have always been known to be. It's a wonderful tribute to all who fought and those who gave their lives for what we believed in. We will Never forget!! Thanks to all who've played a part in putting it all together. The hard work is greatly appreciated. All the Best, Roy and Cheryl"*

We have had a number of recent contributions for which we are grateful

We have recently applied for funding to purchase a specialised museum artefact software programme and computer to run it on. We were among 12 applicants and we await the result. If we are successful we will need someone to assist with the data entry and recording. If you are willing and able please contact me so that if we are successful we can proceed with due speed.

## **Regimental Rumours by 'Stompie'**

Greetings, all,

Well, here we are, already heading towards the middle of February. Hope the New Year is panning out as well as you all hoped.

I've received a great story about one of our fellow countrymen who goes by the name of Ben. He arrived in New Zealand a few years ago. Ben got himself a job working on a dairy farm. He noticed that farming practices in New Zealand were quite different from those on Zimbabwean farms, the most evident of those practices being the use of DOGS to assist in rounding up the dairy herd - just one man and his dog to do the job.

Ben would get up early each morning, get on his motorbike and off he'd go - with the dog - to get the herd in for milking. One dark and cold winter's morning, he thought better of putting Pooch on the bike with him as Pooch was somewhat wet so he decided to leave him at home and go it alone. The paddock which the cows were in was a fair distance away and on arriving there, Ben scooted around the paddock, hooting and yelling at the cows in an attempt to get them up and moving in the direction of the milking shed. Well, the cows just lay there and looked at him. It was cold, drizzling and dark and Ben went around the paddock a second time, hooting and yelling - still no joy. The cows just lay there staring at him.

Ben was getting desperate. He had to get those cows moving as it was a complete no-no bringing them in late, especially being so new to the job. He could go and fetch Pooch but the house was a few k's away and it would take too long - what to do, what to do?? He scratched his head and then came up with Plan B. He drove around the paddock barking like a dog and lo and behold, the lazy beasts started getting up and moving! He continued to do this, barking louder and louder, until all of the cows were up and moving. As soon as Ben stopped barking, the cows stopped moving. So he barked all the way to the dairy, a few kilometres away, and by the time he arrived there, he had no voice left.

Who knows? Ben may have started a new trend in New Zealand farming - Kiwi farmers could retire their dogs and employ mad Zimbabweans to do the job instead. I can just see the ads in the Situations Vacant section of the local rag:

**Farm Assistant required.**  
Duties include herd management, milking,  
general farm maintenance. Prefer ex-  
Zimbabwean farmer with good, strong bark.

So I leave you with that rather amusing tall tale until next time. Don't forget to let me have any stories by emailing me at [stompie@rhodesianservices.org](mailto:stompie@rhodesianservices.org)

Cheers for now,  
Stompie

### Editor's Note – Competition Time

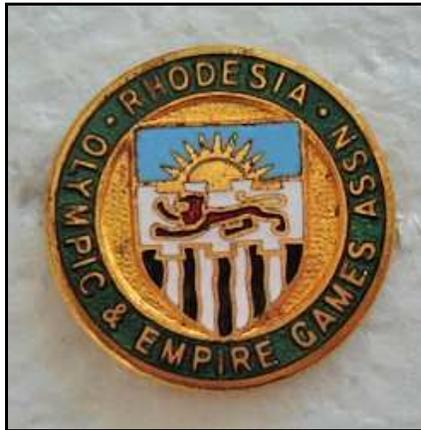
OK so this is the first entry. As you will recall from the last newsletter it was noted that there are many stories out there of experiences that we have all been through in converting to the ways of our adopted countries. Over the next two issues we want to see as many of your stories as possible.

We will be giving a prize to the best one generously sponsored by the Rhodesian Services Association. I am told that threats of retribution or blackmail against Stompie will be vigorously rebuffed. However, bribing folks is OK so start spilling your stories to Stompie. Word of warning though, if any word of threats of blackmail or retribution reach Stompie's radar sharp antennae the perpetrator/s will be made to pay dearly!

### **Grunter's Good Oil**

Many thanks to those of you who wrote in with your best wishes and encouragement. It was good catching with people from all over the world who knew my Dad, Mum and Uncles.

I received a Federation of Rhodesia and Nyasaland Lapel Pin from Percy and Alice Smith in Auckland with the inscription of the Olympic and Empire Games Association on it (pictured below). I will endeavour to find out more about it and would welcome any leads or suggestions.



In a similar vein to the first newsletter I thought of compiling a list of current sportsmen or woman plying their trade around the world. I would also like to include coaches and sports administrators. Now I know this will not be full (in fact far from it) or even correct in some instances. I would appreciate your input and corrections to which can be emailed to [fourstreams@clear.net.nz](mailto:fourstreams@clear.net.nz). Tell me who I have got wrong or left out and lets see what list we can compile over the coming weeks. This will give you all something to rack your brains about and will make for good conversation and bragging rights at your local watering hole.

There is one player I have left out due to his family's involvement with the current Zimbabwe farm appropriation scheme and he will not be included on our list. I have a very interesting letter covering the whole story that is too long to include here. If anybody would like a copy of this letter send your email address to [fourstreams@clear.net.nz](mailto:fourstreams@clear.net.nz) with "Farm Thief" in the subject line and I will pass it on to you.

Here is the start of the list:

**Swimming** - How could we not start with our darling of the swimming pool, Kirsty Coventry. Wasn't she great? She made a lot of us around the world all very proud.

**Rugby** - Beast Mtawarira, Sharks and Springbok prop; David Pockock, Western Force and Australian flanker as well as Australian U20 captain; Bobby Skinstad, Sharks loose forward; Tonderai Chavanga, Stormers and Springbok winger; Takudzwa Ngwenya, Biarritz and USA winger; Ian McIntosh, Springbok selector and coaching guru; Nick Mallet, Italian coach.

**Cricket** - Paul Harris, Proteas off spin bowler; Trevor Penney, Western Australia coach, Duncan Fletcher, former England coach and now Proteas Management Team, Andy Flower, England batting coach, Davey Houghton, Sky Cricket Commentator, Pomi Mbangwa, MNet. Cricket Commentator.

**Golf** - Nick Price and Mark McNulty are both currently playing on the US Seniors Tour, David Leadbetter, is coach to many of the world's top golfers, Dennis Hutchinson, Sky Sports Golf Commentator.

**Tennis** - The Black Family, Cara played at Olympic Games and is still playing tennis on the international circuit, Miles McGlaggan, coach to Andy Murray.

**Soccer** - Benjani Mwaruwari, Manchester City FC.

**Athletics** - Brian Dzingai, 4<sup>th</sup> in the 200m at the Olympic Games 2008.

**CQ Store visit** [www.rhodesianservices.org/The%20Shop.htm](http://www.rhodesianservices.org/The%20Shop.htm) to see what is in store for you

Below is a list of our stock. Your support is invaluable. Please give our CQ Store consideration when buying a present for someone in your family. We do ask that you order early in case we do not have your size in stock and also to allow for shipping time if the destination is outside New Zealand.

We have recently ordered some more Rhodesian Rugby jerseys to cover sizes and styles that we are sold out of. These are due to arrive around the beginning of March 2009. We do still have a good range in stock so do not hold back on ordering.

Recent introductions to our inventory are miniature Rhodesian General Service medals made from solid silver. They are \$40 each including ribbon. We can get them mounted ready to wear if required.

Because of scarcity and rising prices for RLI beret badges, both pre and post Republic, we asked Tom Walsh, who makes the full size RGSM copies for us (and the solid silver miniatures) to investigate reproducing the RLI beret badges. Tom with his usual conservative reply said that he would have a go and that some detail on the scroll might not reproduce. When I saw the first lot I was absolutely delighted. These badges are perfect copies. They are silver plated bronze so are far stronger and more durable than the original badge which was made from light alloy. They are marked on the back to indicate that they are a copy. The RLI copies (both pre and post Republic) are NZ\$40 each as compared with original post Republic at NZ\$65. We do not have any original pre Republic badges for sale. Such is their scarcity we do not have any stock currently.

We began our CQ Store with a few t-shirts some years ago. From this small beginning we have increased our inventory to keep pace with demand. Our CQ Store is now a large source of our annual income. We have taken some risks and stuck our necks out on occasion which resulted in sleepless nights for yours truly. We were criticised by a couple of people when we made copies of the full size RGSM. The basis of the criticism was that ineligible people would buy and wear them. Our reason for producing the medal was to satisfy the demand by people who had lost, had stolen, or never received their original issue. This is in line with what a WWII (or any other soldier) can do. I am happy to say that the RGSM copies have been well received by all those who have purchased and I am satisfied that we have not sold any RGSM directly to an ineligible person.

We have endeavoured to be responsible with our sales. We record all full size RGSMs and Zimbabwe Independence medals that we sell as well as the CIBs. We also have an agreement with the SAS Assn that we will only sell SAS items to proven, badged SAS soldiers.

I have made these comments by way of explanation of our line of thinking in the event that anyone takes exception to our production of the RLI beret badge. We do have original post Republic RLI badges in stock and will continue to source them where possible.

**Please Note:**

ANZAC Day is fast approaching. Please get your orders in well in advance to avoid disappointment. It can take some time to process orders if they involve engraving as well as medal mounting. Then do not forget the post also takes time. I work really hard and process orders as quickly as possible but I cannot make things move any faster through the post or with the good people who do the engraving and mounting.

## **CQ STORE INVENTORY**

<b>ITEMS EXCLUDING POSTAGE</b>	<b>PRICE in NZ\$</b>
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
Lion & Tusk Baseball Caps	\$23
Lion & Tusk Beanies green, black or other (even pink!) on request	\$20
Lion & Tusk Dog Tags 'silver' or 'gold'	\$30
Lion & Tusk Polar Fleece jackets – long sleeved in green, black, navy	\$60
Lion & Tusk Polo shirts - black or green	\$36.50
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	\$35
Regimental ties – Rhodesia Regiment	\$40
Regimental ties – Rhodesian African Rifles	\$40
Regimental ties – SAS	\$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 full size medal copy with ribbon	\$100
Rhodesian General Service Medal full size medal copy (solid silver) with ribbon	\$125
Rhodesian General Service Medal full size ribbon	\$10/length
Rhodesian General Service Medal miniature (solid silver) with ribbon	\$40
Rhodesian General Service Medal miniature ribbon	\$10/length
Rhodesian replica rugby jerseys – short or long sleeve	\$110
Rhodesian flag 3’ x 5’ (900mm x 1500mm) ready to fly	\$35
Rhodesian Flag, embroidered 110mm x 50mm	\$20
Unofficial Rhodesian Combat Infantry Badge	\$22.50
Various medal ribbons – please inquire	POA
Various small embroidered badges (RLI, BSAP & Nyasaland Police)	\$5
Zimbabwe Independence Medal full size copy 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**



**The Rhodesia Regiment – From Pioneer Column to Independence 1890 – 1980**



Alex Binda is closing off accepting submissions at the end of February 2009. This is your last and probably only chance of having input into the recording of our regiment’s history. If you have any recollections or information please contact me.

From some Independent Companies and Battalions there has been scant information forthcoming. This is a shame as I am sure that there are people receiving this who have recollections that they can submit. I can only repeat what I have said earlier and that is that I do not want to hear any criticism of the finished product along the lines that there is a bias towards any units. Alex can only work with what he is supplied and has researched and it is up to you folk to make sure that you get your voice heard.

Alex is particularly keen to get citations for:

- Baz Seeber MFC
- Roy Casey MFC
- Rich Ament BCR
- Bob Smith BCR
- Leonidas Androuliakos BCR
- Mike Stobart-Vallaro SCR

***This is a unique chance to get your memories and experiences recorded for posterity, I urge you to become part of this project.***

### **Books for Africa**

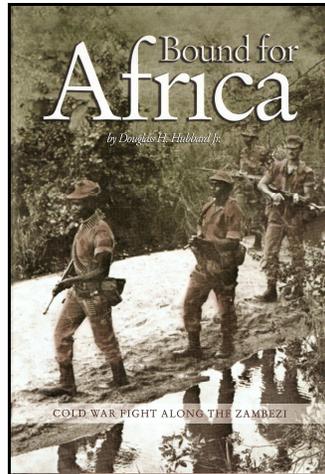
I again remind you that all the books and audio visual disks that I stock and sell are listed at [www.rhodesianservices.org/Books.htm](http://www.rhodesianservices.org/Books.htm). These sales are my own hobby and income from sales is directed to me and not the Rhodesian Services Association. However, the Association does benefit indirectly from these sales.

These books are not stocked by me but are being promoted because the authors have donated to the Association.

Please support authors who we list in this newsletter because they make donations to the Association, so when ordering please tell them you heard about their book from the Rhodesian Services Association.

### **Bound for Africa by Douglas H. Hubbard Jr.**

"Bound for Africa is a particularly timely book about an important continent which the United States has, until recently, largely ignored. An almost Kiplingesque tale of an American serving in a counterinsurgency role at the end of white rule in Rhodesia/Zimbabwe and the beginnings of the murderous misgovernment of Robert Mugabe, the book contains valuable insights into Africa and lessons which are directly applicable to today's Global War on Terrorism." Rear Admiral T. A. Brooks, U.S. Navy (Ret.), former Director of Naval Intelligence.

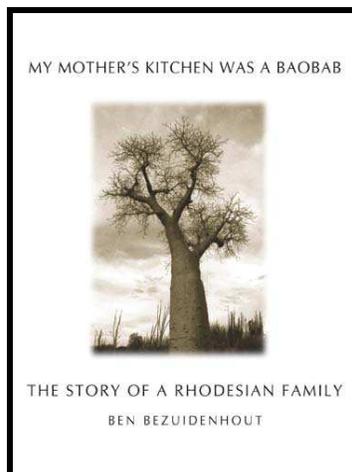


This is the story of the author's introduction to Africa at a time when much of the continent was in the grip of Cold War skirmishes between the free world and the communist forces of China and the Soviet Union. Frayed from three years of service during the Vietnam War, Hubbard travelled to Africa intending to become a rural policeman in a quiet area of what was then Rhodesia. The counterinsurgency war flared soon after, a conflict that bore many of the same characteristics of the country he had just left. Hubbard describes his assimilation into the police force and into Rhodesian society and he recounts the challenges and satisfaction of leading and training young Africans. This is a very personal story of the frustrations he faced and of the attitudes and spirit of the nation's racially mixed security force.

Douglass H. Hubbard Jr. is a consultant who has spent more than three decades working with the disadvantaged in Asia and in Africa. He is also the author of *Special Agent, Vietnam*, a memoir of his years in counterintelligence for the NIS in Vietnam (today known as NCIS) published by Potomac Books in 2006 [www.specialagentvietnam.com](http://www.specialagentvietnam.com)

For orders please email [doug@awanipress.com](mailto:doug@awanipress.com) or write to Bound for Africa, 230-C Walnut Street, #500, Chico, CA 95928, USA

### **My Mothers Kitchen was a Baobab - the Story of a Rhodesian Family by Ben Bezuidenhout**



Now in its third printing, this book is an autobiographical romance. Ben Bezuidenhout expresses with affection and deep love, the natural and human environment in which he grew up. Here is a narrative of courage and struggle, its ambience one of man's interaction with people and nature. Living in the colony of Southern Rhodesia, Ben's family found themselves functioning as pioneers in a country won for imperialism by questionable consultation and aggressive conquest. Farms needed development, roads had to be built, water systems established, medical

facilities made available, education offered to as many as possible and the essential infrastructure of a modern state provided for all.

This adventure works itself through the anecdotal reminiscence of memory. It is laced with humour, acute observation and entertaining appreciation of characters whose work-ethic became second nature. Enterprise and entrepreneurship became their watchwords long before the latter term became trendy.

Whatever the political and moral imperatives of the day, and the latter-day judgement of the twenty first century on the 'scramble for Africa' in the late nineteenth century, time and events have moved on. This book consciously avoids a political interpretation of the colonial experience in Rhodesia, its fifteen years of unilateral 'independence' and recent developments. Its focus is human endeavour, response, suffering and the struggle to respect and relate to an environment rich in natural beauty and challenge.

To order and for more information on this and other books by this author go to this page [www.rhodesianbooks.co.za](http://www.rhodesianbooks.co.za)

## Rhodesian Independence Commemorative Medal (RICM)



The Rhodesian Independence Commemorative Medal can be ordered on line via this link [www.awardmedals.com/RICM](http://www.awardmedals.com/RICM) It was released on the 1<sup>st</sup> February 2009.

Please Note: This is not a Rhodesian Services Association project and we do not carry stock in our CQ Store. You must order directly from the manufacturer in England.

## The Global Forked Stick

### Roan Antelope Music presents a February Feast...

Rock Special! Who Remembers the 50's, 60's, 70's music and artists? What great eras they were! The music is still going and there's always an old hit that's been revived.

Who remembers the South African and Rhodesian artists and bands of those eras? To mention a few: The Diamonds, Gwyneth Ashley Robin, The Bats, Clout, The Dealians, The Dynamics, The Greenstones, Hawk, Lance James, Mutt Lange, Des Lindberg, Peanut Butter Conspiracy, Rabbitt, Gene Rockwell, Staccatos, Nick Taylor, Clem Tholet, Four Jacks and a Jill, Alan Garrity - the list goes on forever.

Roan Antelope music has just acquired the rights to sell an amazing book called "History of Contemporary Music in South Africa". It contains biographies, photos and discographies of more than 1000 artists, bands and D-J's. As a launch special this month, Roan are offering this amazing reference book together with a free CD "All Night Razzle" with John Edmond and his Bushcats, to remind you of some of the songs. It's a stunning party album into the bargain!

Don't miss this limited edition. If you're a South Africa or Rhodesian music enthusiast this offer is an absolute must.

Order now!! The special runs 1<sup>st</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup> February 2009

Details:

Roan Antelope Music [www.johnedmond.co.za](http://www.johnedmond.co.za) or forward your details, c/card, name, postal address and phone number to [info@johnedmond.co.za](mailto:info@johnedmond.co.za) or make a direct payment to J. EDMOND F.N.B. Bela Bela code 260347 AC No. 542000 51694

Price:

SA R150.00; UK £ 20.00; US \$ 40.00; AUS \$ 50.00; NZ \$ 55.00

### Honours and Awards website



Carl Keith has opened up a new website at [www.wewererhodesians.com](http://www.wewererhodesians.com) It is also linked through the banner above.

The website sits over a database containing the honours and awards made to Rhodesians, both military and civilian. Where this database/website differs from others (and books) is that it is 'living', incorporating additional information/data updated and accessible within 24hrs of notification. The database focuses on the medals worn on the chests of Rhodesians, regardless of the country of issue. For example a lot of Rhodesian Police Reservists served in the Royal Air Force, British Army and Royal Navy before moving to Rhodesia where they continued service in the Rhodesian Forces. Carl has made it his mission to record this information and make it available for future generations, before medal groups are lost or broken, and the service history of that person is lost. Currently the data goes from 1983 back to 1958. It will eventually go back to 1928. It covers all services and awards from Zimbabwean, Rhodesian, Southern Rhodesia and Rhodesia & Nyasaland gazettes.

Carl is also incorporating Rhodesian General Service Medal information, so this makes it of interest and importance to all Rhodesians who served in the Security Forces.

The database works on a search credit system. New users get two free credits on sign-up, with the option to purchase more as required. When a user advises of amendments to the records on the database a corresponding number of credits will be 'credited' back to the user to use again, this must not be interpreted as a monetary refund, only a search credit refund. He chose this method to encourage people to contribute and to deter others from siphoning the database with out contributing to it. Hope this all makes sense.

Carl has spent many thousands of pounds to get it up and running and 18 months of solid data entry. The database currently contains information for 19382 Rhodesians who, between them, are the recipients of 29812 honours and awards from 17 different countries, ranging across 290 different types of honours and awards (this figure changes daily at the moment and up-to-date figures can be obtain at <http://www.wewererhodesians.com/statistics.asp> ). He is confident that has referenced and recorded 99% of Rhodesian awards to the Gazette by date, volume number and page number (and in doing so has made numerous corrections to existing sources, added first names to recipients and included additions not previously noted), and is also working on the London Gazette for British awards.

So how can you become involved? There is a MS Word form which can be downloaded from the website at <http://www.wewererhodesians.com/contribute.asp> You complete this with as much information as possible then return it to Carl who will add it to the database for future generations. Accuracy of the information provided, and not the quantity is Carl's aim. If you are not able to access the website or have problems with the form simply email Carl and he will assist you, his email is below.

**Let's make sure OUR history is not forgotten.**

Take a look at the site or contact Carl direct at [carl\\_s\\_keith@hotmail.com](mailto:carl_s_keith@hotmail.com)

### Names Please

Craig Fourie writes asking for names of the two other soldiers in this photo (Kenneth Pittaway is on the left facing) Please email Craig direct at [Craig.Fourie@swedishmatch.co.za](mailto:Craig.Fourie@swedishmatch.co.za)



### **Umtali-ites**

Eddy Norris has been working on the electronic conversion of the history of Umtali Schools and writes: *"I have distributed Chapter 1 and as such if any of you gents/gentesses are interested in this history please contact me. The file is +/- 350kb for Chapter 1. I always tell people "Learning about Umtali makes a better Rhodesian of you".*

Email Eddy at [oraf11@gmail.com](mailto:oraf11@gmail.com)

### **Group Photos**

James MacKenzie writes requesting named group photos for the nominal roll he is compiling. He requires the photos in 300dpi otherwise he cannot make out the names and badges.

You can email James at [militaria@netpoint.co.za](mailto:militaria@netpoint.co.za)

### **Some new links**

Here are some of our people who are in business and have something skilful and/or of interest to offer in my opinion. Please let it be noted that advertising businesses is not what this newsletter is about and any advertising of this nature is done completely at the discretion of the editor.

**Khukuri Imports Ltd** [www.khukuriimports.co.nz](http://www.khukuriimports.co.nz) this is a company run by three *skellems* that I unfortunately know and because they put a lot into this association I am giving them some air time again. I hear that their stocks have arrived from Nepal and they are in full swing. The one known as "The Sultan of Sharp" is out and about selling like a trooper, if he approaches you your best form of defence is to get your wallet out!

**Philip Marcou** was in 1 Field Regiment Rhodesian Artillery. He worked for Adam Bede. Phil produces high quality furniture and woodworking tools from his workshop in Waihi, New Zealand. I have seen his stuff and it is of the highest quality. I would recommend you to his websites [www.marcouplanes.co.nz](http://www.marcouplanes.co.nz) and [www.collectablefurniture.co.nz](http://www.collectablefurniture.co.nz) or give him a call on +64 21 324 738

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.**

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