



Rhodesian Services Association Incorporated

Registered under the 2005 Charities Act in New Zealand number CC25203

Registered as an Incorporated Society in New Zealand number 2055431

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September 2008 Newsletter

Please Note that all previous newsletters are available at

<http://www.rhodesianservices.org/Newsletters.htm>

Greetings

My main focus currently is on the RV. You will see the details below. I do ask that you buy your tickets as soon as possible. We aim to have everyone registered by the 10th of October. This gives us time to post your registration pack back to you and get our order in for the meat, badges etc.

I get a lot of feedback from each newsletter. These two emails below were in relation to the obituary on Mr Owen-Smith and are of particular interest.

From Doug Hubbard:

"Dear Hugh,

Every now and then most of us with links to Rhodesia receive a not-so-subtle reminder of the enormous tragedy that occurred when the country disintegrated and Rhodesians sought new places to call home. This time, when I read the latest news letter, there were two items that jumped off the page at me: the obituary of Mr. Owen-Smith (who knowledgeable sources told me had been dead for more than twenty years) and the remembrances for American RLI vets KIA.

I owe an enormous debt of gratitude to Owen-Smith. He got out of his cot at 0300 and came into the Andrew Fleming where he methodically reconstructed half of my face after a premature explosives detonation blew off my right hand during a night training exercise at Goromonzi. He could have left the job to a person of lesser skill and doubtless my gob would reflect this today. His careful, minute sutures, made further surgery unnecessary – and he later took me to his burn ward for skin grafts and a re-make of the amputation.

I was told that one of his sons, an Internal Affairs type, was being treated for burns in Ward 9 while I was there, but I never met him. I left Rhodesia in Sep 1975 after being discharged on medical grounds. Other than my final "Good-bye and thanks" to the man who put me back together again, I never had an opportunity to express my gratitude to the man, although I did try to find him.

I hope – at least – that his family know what a great man their dad was, another of those great, selfless Rhodesians... As for the US KIAs in Rhodesia, I knew that there had been some – but I learned from the newsletter that seven Americans were KIA while serving in the RLI. I did not know that. I am gratified that they are being remembered by their families and countrymen. There is a story – I am sure – behind why each decided to go to Africa and face the tyranny of yet another Eastern bloc supported insurgency.

I served three tours in Vietnam before deciding to attest in the BSAP. With that background, I quickly found my way to Support Unit, attended the School of Infantry, Gwelo, to learn the Army Way. Naval Institute Press, Annapolis, Maryland, asked me to write an autobiography about my all-too-brief Rhodesian experience: "Bound For Africa" will be released on 1 November. Here is the web site: http://www.usni.org/store/item.asp?ITEM_ID=1718&DEPARTMENT_ID=95 My previous book, "Special Agent, Vietnam" was released by Potomac Books in 2006. The web site is www.specialagentvietnam.com (also on Amazon) for those who are curious...

*With best wishes,
Doug Hubbard"*

From Clare Turner:

"Hugh

I worked with Mr Owen-Smith in Salisbury. He was a brilliant surgeon and fantastic to work with. He was always patient and always a gentleman to both his patients and to us in the hospital. He was a good man.

Regards

Clare Turner"

Obituaries

From ORAFs:

Ian Wiggill died on August 26, 2008 in South Africa

Lorna Wilson beloved wife of Archie Wilson was admitted to the Sunnybank Hospital, Australia, and passed away on Friday 22nd August 2008.

Insert by ORAFs; *Air Marshal Archie Wilson Commanded the Air Force from 1968 to 1973. Message of sympathy can be directed to Nigel and Jenny on nigel@merlynproducts.com.au ORAFs records its deepest sympathy to the Wilson family. Thanks also to Nigel and Jenny for making the information available to ORAFs and its Friends.*

From John Winter:

*"Yesterday, August the 4th, a fine Rhodesian died. His name is **Mark van Rensburg** and he died of a heart attack in Harare, aged 75. He was born in South Africa, but moved to Rhodesia as a young man and gave much to his adopted country. He was a fine boxer and was involved in the coaching of some of Rhodesia's finest. He was a good club rugby player. He proudly served in the Police Reserve. He was a businessman of high principles and received a Lions Club award for services rendered.*

He will obviously be sorely missed by his family, but also me. I owe him much and he was like an uncle and a mentor to me.

There may be people out there who knew Mark and will remember him.

Cheers."

Off the radar

The following people's email addresses have changed. If you know their new address, please tell me or get them to contact me. Thank you

Graham and Louise Acfield, New Zealand

Tom Geddes, New Zealand

Frank and Jane Flowers, New Zealand

John and Marita Baker, New Zealand

Brian Johnson, New Zealand

Irene Courtney (formerly Irene McIntosh) would like to contact **Sandra Snelgar** formerly **Sandy Wilkinson**. If you can help please email me.

Correction to a previous notice.

Please note that the Les Booth draw will take place at the Shamwari Club, Westville, Durban, on Friday 3 October 2008, on the occasion of Unveiling the Operation Miracle Memorial. The notice had the year '2009' in error, Eddy Norris apologises and promises to buy everyone who notice the error a beer. Please refer to the previous email for ticket purchase details. Sales are going well in New Zealand – keep it up.

The October RV – Tauranga 24th, 25th, 26th October 2008

Ticket sales are open! Price: Adults \$30.00, Children under 12 \$10.00.

Background:

The first R.V. was held in 2002 in October over the public holiday Labour Weekend. It was envisaged as a one off affair in order to show respect to those who had been decorated for their bravery and service to Rhodesia.

It was held at the 6th Hauraki Battalion Group's HQ in Tauranga. The then Commanding Officer, Lt. Col. John Dick ED, was most complimentary of our efforts and the kind of spirit that we represented. He paid us a great compliment by insisting that as soldiers, we should have the opportunity to be able to keep safe the record of our country. He invited us to form a museum display as part of the unit's history room.

A display was set up with funding and contribution from all over the world. The display was officially opened in April 2003 during a visit to New Zealand by Lt. Gen. Peter Walls GLM DCD MBE.

That first RV was so successful that it has been held every year since. In 2005 we held it in November to coincide with the anniversary of UDI and also Armistice Day but it was found that a standard weekend was not long enough for out of town travel and recuperation of the organisers.

The October RV as it has become known, (RV is short for 'Rendezvous', a military term indicating a meeting place and the French word for 'appointment') is now an annual event that anyone is welcome to attend, irrespective of nationality or service to Rhodesia. We are supported by the 6th Hauraki Battalion Group and the 6th Hauraki Battalion Group Regimental Assn. Inc.

Through the strength of the RV, the Rhodesian Services Association was formed from the basis of what was known as the New Zealand Branch of the Rhodesian Army Association. It was seen that any group in New Zealand needed to encompass all branches of the Rhodesian Security Forces, as well as be open to families and people who did not serve. The Lion & Tusk was adopted as our official emblem.

Tickets

Please do not delay with your ticket purchasing. We have a lot to organise. This event is run on very tight margins in order to keep the price down for you and so we need to be accurate with our catering. We are guests of the New Zealand Army and have to account to them accordingly as well. Please remember that we all have jobs and businesses to run, some of us take time off work (unpaid) and so we need to make the best use of our time as possible. All expenses are paid in advance of the event so there are no refunds in the event of cancellation.

From Diana's and my perspective, last year was probably the smoothest run RV that we have had. This was principally because so many more people now know the ropes and give a hand. Thank you.

Payment

Please make your cheque to:
H & D Bomford, PO Box 13003, Tauranga 3141
or direct deposit to:
ASB Bank
12-3209-0239761-51

I need the following information when you make your payment:

- The names of the people attending
- If you will be playing golf
- If you will attend the De-Brief (AGM)
- The address to which send the registration pack.

The adult ticket price (\$30) covers:

- \$5 annual membership of the Rhodesian Services Association Incorporated
- '2008' Lapel pin
- Venue hire,
- Braai,
- Admin, postage etc

The under 12 year old ticket price (\$10) covers:

- Braai
- Venue hire,
- Admin, postage etc.

Please Note:

- Ticket money is non refundable.
- Should the under 12 year old require a Lapel Pin please add \$5.
- Should the under 12 year old wish to be a financial member of the Association, please add \$5.

DETAILS FOR THE RV

Friday 24th October

The Garrison Club at the 6th Hauraki Battalion Group HQ in Tauranga will be open from around 4pm. We will have food for sale from around 5.30pm This will be the Rhodesian Women's Volunteer canteen special that was known as 'Sloppy Joes'. For those who do not remember, this is the spiced mince served up a bit like an unformed hamburger. Recipe kindly supplied by Mrs Sylvia Logie, former WVS 2IC. Proceeds are to be directed to the Rhodesian Services Assn.

We will have a John Edmond DVD on the go on the big screen and anything else that we can fit in leading up to the main show. This means you can socialise, have a graze and watch and listen to a few of the old vibes.

At 7pm we will run a series of DVDs of Rhodesian based material. With suitable interludes for refreshments we expect to wind up the show around 10pm. The bar will of course be open after the show has finished.

A collection will be taken, this money goes to the Hauraki Museum.

Saturday 25th October

Golf tournament - Meet at Queen Elizabeth Memorial Park 9.15am to proceed to course at 9.30am sharp Greg O'Carroll is the organiser of this event. This year it will be held on a public course in the Welcome Bay area. Greg says the scenery on the course is magnificent and no doubt some of the participants will spend more time in the 'scenery' (shateen) than on the course, but we will hear about that at the prize giving! All are welcome. The Green Fee is not certain yet so make sure you take some cash. Greg will also arrange light refreshments - high energy sports drinks - that sort of thing (yeah right!). Please call Greg on 021 721 042 and/or email him zalonyika@hotmail.com or his work address grego@seeka.co.nz

RV Registration 2:30pm

Park in the Queen Elizabeth Memorial park area and assemble at the 6th Hauraki Battalion Group Hall, corner Devonport and 11th Avenue, Tauranga to complete registration details etc. It pays to be early as there is a bit to do and it is also a good opportunity for a catch up with your old friends before the welcome.

Official welcome at 3:30pm sharp.

We will receive a welcome from our hosts after which the Garrison Club will be open.

Auction

During the course of the afternoon and evening there will be the annual auction as well as some raffles to raise funds for our various museum projects. You will be pleased to know that Steve Geach will once again be squeezing that last dollar out of your pockets. This is our main annual fund raiser so please support it.

Once the auction is completed we will fire up the braais.

Rugby viewing.

The final of the Air New Zealand Cup final will be played on the big screen during the evening. A joint project between the Hauraki Assn. and ourselves has made this possible. Please support us and not the local shebeens which charge you four times the price of a drink that you can have at the Garrison.

The bar stays open as long as required. Remember there are no EFTPOS facilities at the Garrison.

Sunday 26th October

Clear up at the Garrison 10am

AGM ('The De-Brief')

Venue is the Classic Flyers Museum Jean Batten Drive, Mount Maunganui. We will be using the MASH Camp - see below. In the event of rain we will use the hanger.



Assemble at venue from 11am.

Cover charge is \$12 per person payable on the day. (This amount has changed from the original notice I sent out)

This covers you for:

- Entry in the draw for a flight on the AG-CAT valued at \$325.00 (see below for more information).
- The venue hire.
- Parking on the grass on the roadside just past the MASH Camp.
- Tea, coffee and filtered water on site
- Colin's Big Brunch Special
- Entry to the Classic Flyers and Tauranga Military Collection museums (normal ticket price is \$10).
- The Lions Den will also be open to view.

We will appoint a time that the AGM will start closer to the time. The meeting is not onerous and it is a good opportunity for you to see what is happening behind the scenes with this association as well as to bring up any good ideas for our future development and for you to show your support to the committee.

Alcohol is available from the Avgas Cafe.

Grumman AG-CAT flight



Each attendee at the De-Brief will be assigned a number. The draw will be at the conclusion of the meeting. The winner gets a voucher for two seats for a scenic flight over the area on this 'ndegge' above. This great prize is subsidised by Andrew Gormlie and the Classic Flyers Museum, to whom we are most grateful.

SUPPORT THE RV SUPPORTERS

Without these people and organisations the RV would not be what it is today and we officially acknowledge their support, not only for the RV weekend, but throughout the year:

6th Hauraki Battalion Group – The Commanding Officer Lt. Col. W. Banks MNZM, ED, JP.,

6th Hauraki Battalion Group Regimental Association – President Des Anderson, the Committee and barman Kevin.

Classic Flyers Museum – Andrew Gormlie

A2Z Imaging www.a2zimaging.co.nz

Barclay Engravers www.barclayengravers.co.nz

Sew Hot Monograms 3/15 Portside Drive, Mount Maunganui phone 07 575 0779

Please show them your support where possible

At the RV we hold an auction. Most of the items are donated. We are grateful to the following who have supported us to date with items. Where applicable the donor's website is listed for your support of their product:

30 Degrees South Publishing www.30degreessouth.co.za

Alison and Wolf Huckle

Barry Morgan and family

Bryan and Nancy Tichborne <http://www.watercolours.co.nz/index.htm>

Bryony Bomford

David Lemon www.elephantlemon.com

Delite Acheson Scruggs www.dukesrhodesia.co.za

Diana and Hugh Bomford <http://www.rhodesianservices.org/Books.htm>

Hennie Schoeman

James Scott email johnno@computec.co.za or look for his book 'The Sweaties' on www.amazon.com

John Edmond www.johnedmond.co.za

Kevin Woods www.30degreessouth.co.za or <http://www.rhodesianservices.org/Books.htm>

Mel Clements and family

Paul Nes

Paul Selby

Phyllis Coey

Steve Kennedy

Vic MacKenzie

Without an auctioneer we would not have an auction, so thanks in advance to Steve Geach.

If you have any suitable items or wish to offer a voucher for a service your business can donate please contact Paul Nes paulnes@xtra.co.nz or 027 441 7235. Paul will also give a list to anyone who wishes to make a phone bid.

Rhodesian Services Association Inc. update

Year 2007-08 financial members recently voted unanimously in support of a small change to our rules. This was required to satisfy the New Zealand Inland Revenue's requirements as part of our request to retain a tax exempt status.

The Rhodesian Services Association Incorporated is an Incorporated Society and is also a Registered Charity under the New Zealand Charities Act 2005. Our registration number is CC25203. Our rules, details and certificate can be viewed on the Charities Commission website www.charities.govt.nz as well as on the Societies Register www.societies.govt.nz

Please remember that as we are registered charity New Zealand residents making donations to us can claim this back on their tax returns. Please request a receipt when you donate.

Museum News

The need to work at our jobs for those involved with the museum displays has kept the development of the displays to a minimum recently.

We have received a suitcase full of uniforms and other items from England. We are most grateful to Martyn Hudson for this as well as Ian Clegg whose boots sent the NZ Ministry of Agricultural and Fisheries into over drive. The boots were suitably fumigated (at our expense). Now when one bears in mind that the boots were last worn going on 30 years ago Ian must have had a hell of a foot odour problem in the opinion of the men from MAF! The fact that there were bayonets, bullets, knives, batons and other items in there did not seem to matter. We did, by the way, have permits for the prohibited goods that came in. We are eagerly awaiting delivery of more items including a replica MAG that Martyn kindly (at considerable expense and hassles to himself) helped obtain for us.

On the subject of restricted items, we can legally import many weapons for our museum displays. We already have permits for various weapons used in the Bush War. If you are in a position to help and this means that you can obtain and export items legally we would be happy to hear from you.

This is how the Lion's Den looks currently:



The two glass fronted cabinets were housing my late father's African and New Zealand *Cerambycid* (long horn beetle) collection. The unique collection is now in the Auckland Museum and with Landcare Research where it is being put to use to help the local scientists.

The collection of books and magazines is also expanding. This will provide a useful source of reference in the future.

A display featuring a vinyl backdrop made from a photo of 2 Cdo RLI paratroops boarding a Dakota has been constructed. It is re-locatable and is pictured below when it was on display in Tauranga during a recent gun show, where it attracted a lot of attention. In case you were wondering where the well fumigated, boned, Mars Pattern ex

Ian Clegg boots are – look at the manikin para's feet! This display will be sited in the Classic Flyers Museum once space has been made adjacent to our current area.



So friends, this is where the money goes from the profits from the sales out of the CQ Store. The assistance we had for this display alone came in from around the world: the photo from Chris Cocks, South Africa; touching up and printing (at a generous discount) by A2Z Imaging, Tauranga, New Zealand; the manikin was purchased earlier this year by us (about \$700); the uniform, weapon and equipment is a combination of museum items donated from at least three people (M Hudson, I Clegg, H Bomford) and loans from a further two (T Fraser and R Gouws). The display and assembly was the work of our Curator, Tony Fraser.

All of you who contribute financially to our Association should feel a part of what you see here.

We need to install a de-humidifier in the Lion's Den. If any reader is in the trade who can offer us a good deal please contact me. We do not need a jumbo size one as the container is only a 3m cube. It will need to be a model that can be set to turn off when a required level of humidity is reached, as well as being able to be plumbed so that we do not need to empty containers of water.

Regimental Rumours by ‘Stompie’

Has anyone seen Stompie? No, of course not as you do not know who Stompie is. Well Stompie has gone walkabout, or is it that the subject of the last newsletter is looking for Stompie with unkind thoughts and Stompie has gapped it?

In my view it is that Stompie has not heard anything juicy recently so what I have done is set Stompie up with comms. via this email address stompie@rhodesianservices.org Stompie is all ears for any tittle tattle – historic or current - your anonymity is assured!

While on the subject, let me assure you that I am not Stompie!! Aikona meena, I em noti the wun etc., etc.

Rob Rickards Presentation

This piece below was sent to me by Steve Addison who organised this very special presentation for his cousin Rob Rickards. As we had sold Steve a number of the items and the whole story would be, I believe, of wider interest I asked him to write up this article with Rob's approval.

“Hi Hugh,

Re Rob Rickards, please find attached the photos of him receiving his framed medals, pictures, badges and miniature set of medals.

The background information on him, it is as follows:

Robert John Rickards was born in Centenary and educated at St. Georges College, where he was Head Boy in 1975.

He was called up for National Service from 8 January 1976 to 10 June 1977, intake 150 and was posted to the School of Infantry, Gwelo for basic training and officer's course. Through the narrowest of margins, Robert missed out on his commission and passed out as a Corporal.

From there, Robert was posted to the 6th Independent Company, Rhodesia Regiment. Whilst on patrol in February 1976 near Umtali, he unfortunately detonated an anti personal landmine, and lost his lower left leg. He made a good recovery and with the aid of a prosthetic leg, continued with his military duties and was posted from 1978 to 1979 to Boat Troop, 5 Engineer Squadron, patrolling the shores of Lake Kariba.

Robert then qualified as a pilot on light aircraft, and continued to fulfil his military obligations from 1979 to 1980 with the Ministry of Internal Affairs and the African Development Fund Air unit. He flew Cessna's; 172, 182 and 206.

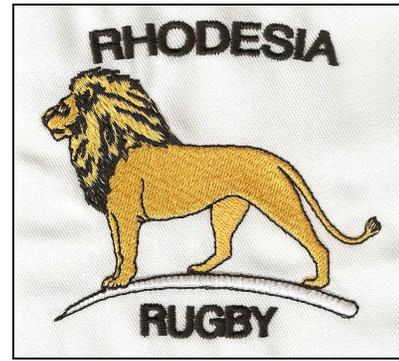
After Zimbabwe Independence, 18 April 1980, Robert continued to pursue his flying career and joined Air Zimbabwe, before moving to Australia to join Qantas, where he is at present a Senior Training and Checking Captain.

Thanks for all your help, it brought a tear of joy to many.

*With kind regards
Steve Addison”*

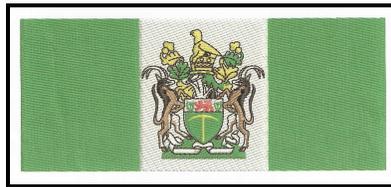


Rob Rickards and Steve Addison



Computer generated pattern. Scan of the initial embroidery pattern, the tusk is to be thickened.

We have also had these Rhodesian flags (pictured below) done. They are embroidered, measure approximately 115mm x 50mm and can be sewn on to your garment.



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 badges	\$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
Medal Pouch	\$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 amongst men"	\$10
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 medal with ribbon	\$35
Rhodesian General Service Medal miniature ribbon	\$10/length
New Product Rhodesian replica rugby jerseys – short or long sleeve	\$110
New Product Rhodesian Flag, embroidered 115mm 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 medal with ribbon	\$35
Zimbabwe Independence Medal miniature ribbon	\$10/length
'Zippo' type lighter	\$25

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



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



We need material from 1 Indep. Coy soldiers for the 1964-1970 period.

Photos and illustrations are to be sent to me:
PO Box 13003, Tauranga 3141, New Zealand or email hbomford@clear.net.nz

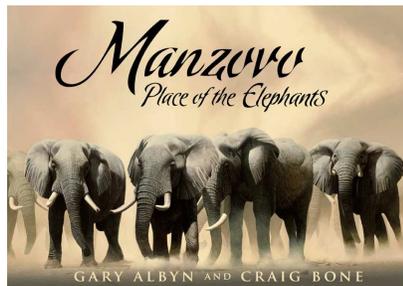
Please Note: If you do the scans yourself we need them done at 300 DPI.

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 <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.

Arriving in October



MANZOVO - Place of the Elephants by Gary Albyn with Craig Bone (includes audio CD of the recited poem by John Whiteley a South African Shakespearian actor.)

Coffee-table: Hard back (with dustjacket)

210 x 297mm (landscape)

192 pages Approx 200 colour paintings & illustrations, maps

Price to be confirmed but probably around NZ\$75 plus postage depending on exchange rates

A beautiful, astonishing 107-verse poem ...

Nestled like a rare jewel in the inhospitable but alluring Zambezi Valley, Mana Pools provides the early setting for the episodic story of *Manzovo - Place of the Elephants*.

Thandi, now at the height of her prime, is the astute and respected matriarchal head of a herd of elephants. She gives birth to Lesedi, the last of her five calves, and thus begins their sweeping journey through the bushveld and across the open vistas of southern Africa. While the herd has to deal with their brushes with predators, farmers, poachers and culling gangs alike, their odyssey across southern Africa also embraces some of the cultures, natural wonders and landmarks that give character to this region. So too are described encounters with some of the floral and faunal species unique to this part of the continent. The story portrays their epic travels through these parts at a time in our past when elephants were able to range, with relative ease, across the timeless plains of Africa. Both subtle and compelling, the story weaves in the arcane rhythm that pounds like a tribal drum deep in Africa's chest.

Gary Albyn was born in Rhodesia in 1960 and grew up in Umtali on the eastern border with Mozambique. An avid outdoorsman, he quickly developed a keen appreciation for the beauty and allure of the African bush—a passion that endures to this day. Upon leaving school he managed to satisfy one of his other passions, aviation, by gaining admission onto one of the Rhodesian Air Force's exacting trainee pilot programmes. With the advent of Zimbabwe, and bigger prospects beckoning, he adopted South Africa as his new home in the early 1980s. Soon after graduating in civil engineering he moved into the corporate sphere and so began a successful career in the industrial sector. With a personal philosophy that values life balance, and an adventurous spirit in constant need of assuagement, Gary shares his time between family, career, staying fit, private flying, travelling, responsible 4x4 off-roading, research, sketching and writing. The International Library of Poets® has honoured some of Gary's previous poems, one of which was recently featured in a published anthology, *Forever Spoken*. He lives in Johannesburg with his wife Paula and two children, Adam and Paige.

Craig Bone was born in Salisbury, Rhodesia in 1955, where he grew up. He joined the Rhodesian Light Infantry in 1977. He was critically wounded in Frelimo mortar attack while on operations in Mozambique and it was only because of some desperate flying from the CASEVAC helicopter pilot that saved his life. While recuperating he started painting, initially military-themed works, and in a short time he was to be recognized as an artist of some repute. With his passion for wildlife, and the Zambezi Valley, he was to become an internationally acclaimed artist with his paintings being sold worldwide. A painting of his was recently auctioned on behalf of the Vietnam Veterans' Association and fetched US\$106,000, it now hangs in the Pentagon. He lives in Florida, USA but still manages to spend several months of the year in the Zambezi Valley. See his website at www.craigbone.com for more information.

The Global Forked Stick

Some of you will have seen this piece already, it was forwarded to me by Alistair Honeybun webmaster of Rhodesians Worldwide. It is online at http://www.timesonline.co.uk/tol/sport/more_sport/article3908106.ece It is from The Sunday Times May 11, 2008

Caught in Time: Zimbabwe win hockey gold, 1980 Moscow Olympics by Cathy Harris

A balmy summer's morning in Moscow in 1980 turned into an unforgettable day in the history of the newly independent Zimbabwe. Liz Chase provided the pass and Pat McKillop scored the goal to seal a 4-1 victory over Austria as Zimbabwe wrote themselves into the record books as the first winners of the women's Olympic hockey gold medal. It was their first Olympic medal of any colour. Ann Grant, the captain, a 25-year-old bookkeeper from Harare, led her ecstatic side on to the podium to acknowledge the acclaim for an extraordinary triumph.

Most western nations boycotted the Games in protest at the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan. With the best teams out of the tournament, including Holland, Germany and Australia, the organisers were forced to invite countries that would never have qualified. In the round-robin six-team format featuring the hosts, Poland, Austria, India and Czechoslovakia, Zimbabwe remained unbeaten.

It was a fairy-tale ending for the new African nation, but it might never have happened. Grant, sister of Duncan Fletcher, the former England cricket coach, said the invitation to compete came out of the blue. "We weren't in training, didn't have a team and hadn't a clue what to expect." The squad included the nucleus of the side that had represented Rhodesia, the former name of the country before it emerged from civil war as Zimbabwe. Hurriedly assembled, the team flew to the Zambian capital, Lusaka, en route to Moscow in a plane normally used for transporting meat. "The stench was terrible," recalled Grant. "There were no seats, so we all sat on the floor, strapped in and set off into the unknown. (Editor's note – I imagine this was one of Jack Malloch's planes). We didn't even have the right shoes to play on the artificial hockey surface."

The fortnight in Moscow was crucial: the squad forging an indomitable team spirit as they set their sights on realising a dream. McKillop wrote herself into the history books by scoring the first goal in Olympic women's history. She was also the top scorer in the event. In the euphoria that followed, President Robert Mugabe's wife, Sally, promised every player an ox. (Editor's note – I recall that it was Joyce Mujuru, the terrorist leader Rex Nhongo aka Solomon Mujuru's wife who was Minister of Sport at that time who made these extravagant promises)

Sandy Chick, whose identical twin, Sonia, was also in the side, said: "It took us a while to realise we'd won gold. Suddenly, everyone wanted a part of us - we were immensely proud. People wanted to know all about Zimbabwe and we were invited to a party at the Kremlin. We couldn't believe what a thrilling experience it was. There we were, chatting to Daley Thompson, Seb Coe and Steve Ovett - it was unreal."

The Golden Girls returned to a huge welcome and were feted for months. However, the promised oxen failed to materialise, and at a ceremony hosted by Mrs Mugabe, they were amused to receive a small polystyrene packet of meat each. The squad continued to help develop the game, but, sadly, hockey has failed to capture the imagination of the population. Purpose-built stadiums in Harare and Bulawayo lie derelict, with most people reluctant to play or unable to afford the equipment. Cultural obstacles and transport also remain big problems.

Twenty-eight years on, their triumph remains a tribute to their outstanding qualities. Nobody who shared the joy of the players and officials could deny them their moment of glory. They freely acknowledge that they won the gold

medal without competing against the best in the world, but, like many athletes in Moscow in 1980, they seized their chance.

1 **Audrey Palmer** President of the Zimbabwe Women's Hockey Association from 1980 to 1995, she died last year, aged 74.

2 **Linda Watson** Her pace as one of the country's top hurdlers and sprinters helped make Watson a useful utility player. Now follows swimming, as her daughter shows promise.

3 **Sue Huggett** The midfielder has lived in Melbourne for 22 years and works in accounts.

4 **Gill Cowley** Lives in New Zealand with her teenage son and works for an accountancy firm.

5 **Sonia Robertson** Sandy Chick's twin married Springbok rugby union player Ian Robertson. Sonia coached and umpired hockey for years before the family moved to Durban, where they own a coffee shop.

6 **Sandy Chick** The Chick twins also represented Zimbabwe at basketball. Sandy was a prolific goalscorer. She left Harare in 2006, moving to Dubai.

7 **Liz Dreyer** (manager) Dreyer moved to Cape Town and was head of a girls' private school.

8 **Pat McKillop** After retiring from hockey in 1995, she took up golf and has represented Matabeleland. Lives in Bulawayo.

9 **Brenda Phillips** Moved to South Africa in 1984 and lives in Johannesburg with her husband and two sons. She is deputy head at Roedeane Junior School.

10 **Maureen George** George has lived in Cape Town for more than 20 years. Works as a PA.

11 **Sarah English** The goalkeeper played hockey and softball until 1986. She works as an accountant for a construction firm in Harare.

12 **Arlene Boxhall** Boxhall is the youngest women's hockey gold medallist, aged 18 years and 302 days. Nobody has heard from her since 1980.

13 **Trish Davies** One of the few who remained in Zimbabwe. The family farm was seized four years ago in Robert Mugabe's land-grab. Davies works in accounts in Harare.

14 **Chris Prinsloo** Prinsloo moved to Johannesburg, but works three months on and a month off in the UK as a carer.

15 **Helen Volk** Emigrated to Johannesburg in 1984 with her husband and two sons. Her medal was stolen in a burglary in 1990. Despite repeated appeals, it was never returned.

16 **Anthea Stewart** (player/coach) Married Rob Stewart, who represented Rhodesia at diving. Their son Evan won the 1m springboard 1998 Commonwealth Games gold and world championship title in Rome in 1994. Stewart lives in Harare.

17 **Ann Grant** Came from a sporting family; Duncan Fletcher is the most famous of her five brothers. She moved to Durban in 1981 and is the financial director of several companies.

18 **Liz Chase** Trained as a physical education teacher and has lived in Johannesburg since 1983.

This photo below (which was not part of the article above) is taken of two pages from the book 'Rhodesian Sports Profiles 1907 - 1979' by Glen Byrom and illustrated by Henk van Rooyen. My apologies for the quality or lack thereof, but it would not all fit on my scanner.

To me it just goes to show what can be done if people have their hearts in something, give it their all and ignore side issues. They did not really have time to think about things, and they did not get caught up with having to have 'the best' of everything. That is the true Olympic spirit - not what you see today where money is no object to some. Mind you, true Olympic spirit would not have seen Rhodesia banned - had we been able to compete through those years after we were chucked out at Munich, who knows what our sports men and women might have achieved?

We have all admired these Golden Hockey Girls and I am please to see that they have not been forgotten. If anyone knows where Gillian Cowley is in NZ I would like to be able to contact her.



(Top row — left to right)
 Helen Volk
 Pat McKillop
 Elisabeth Chase
 Arlene Boxhall
 Gillian Cowley

(Middle row — left to right)
 Christine Prinsloo
 Sandra Chick
 Linda Watson
 Anthea Stewart
 Sonia Robertson

(Bottom row — left to right)
 Susan Huggett
 Ann Grant
 Sarah English
 Patricia Davies
 Brenda Phillips
 Maureen George

Request for information on lanyards

Wayne Kennerley writes:

"Hi Hugh,

I wonder if I could ask your readers to help me with the creation of a list of what colour lanyards were used by the various units. For instance I have no idea if the MPs used a lanyard. I also know that BSAP Support Unit Troops all had their own lanyard of various different colours.

Thanks

Wayne"

Replies direct to wkennerley@yahoo.com

Request for photos of Danie van Tonder

This request from Gerry van Tonder:

"Hi Guys

I have a personal request which I am hopeful you may be able to assist with. My three brothers all served at various times with the RLI. For two of them, I have been able to gather photo's of them when they were in the Battalion, but for my second eldest brother, Danie, I do not have any.

Danie was an NCO with 2 Commando from 1969 to 1974 and at one time had a huge collection of formal group photos and "casual" ones relating to border patrol days in the Valley. Unfortunately he, like many others, had marital problems as a result of continuous call-up. He remarried after the war, but was tragically killed in a hit-and-run in Mutare in 1999, a month before my family and I emigrated to the UK. I have lost contact with his widow in Zim, but I believe she destroyed all his RLI memorabilia.

My humble request is quite simply an appeal for your kind assistance to ask, via respective newsletters, to see if anyone may remember Danie (not to be confused with Attie who was an NCO and MT rep with 1 Cdo, serving from 1967 to 1978) and who may have, in their possession, any photo's which include him.

I would be really grateful if you could assist

Cheers

Gerry"

Please respond directly to Gerry g.van-tonder@sky.com

British South Africa Police Association Outpost Books

These books, nine in number so far with more planned, first appeared as articles in the BSAP Magazine "Outpost", although some of the stories have not been published previously, they have been gathered together as collectors' items and are for sale to raise funds for the BSAP Association.

In soft back, the covers are tastefully bound in the force colours of Blue and Old Gold.

These books are available from the Quartermaster, Bertie Cubitt. Enquiries to "Fritton" 55 Church Road, Elmstead, Near Colchester, Essex CO7 7AW or email bsapuk2@aol.com

Outstanding orders with Ken Palmer

Ken writes that he has had computer problems and may have lost some email orders for his bullion wire blazer badges. He thinks that someone wanted a Rhodesian Signals badge. If you are the effected party please email him at KPalmer@macmahon.com.au

Unofficial Intaf website

Dudley Wall has recently initiated this website at <http://www.freewebs.com/dudleywall/> I recommend that you have a look.

John Edmond and Roan Antelope Music

On the 13th September 1890 the Union Jack was hoisted at Fort Salisbury, proclaiming the country of Rhodesia. 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, Rhodesia Centenary and BSAP Centenary on special for September.

Rhodesia Centenary contains a colourful and interesting mixture of songs by John Edmond, Nick Taylor, The Greenstones, Ian & Ritchie, Mike Westcott (remember his "Shumba Drinkers" & "Mukumbura") and not to forget "Rhodesians Never Die" by Clem Tholet. This CD was compiled to commemorate Rhodesia's birth "Gods Country" her life and her warmth and is dedicated to all who lived for her, died for her and supported her through the years.

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 B.S.A.P. Regimental Associations around the world. On the B.S.A.P. Centenary CD there are songs like - "Kum-a-Kye", "Warriors Bold" and "Siege at Elands River", "Sergeant Guy", "Black Boots", Trooper Thomas" and a selection of music by the BSAP Regimental band.

This is a collector's item to commemorate and salute a regiment that served in many roles – underwater, on horseback, on foot and in the sky – men and women keeping peace and fighting a war. John salutes them in song. The B.S.A.P., a regiment that lives on.

Order from Roan Antelope Music www.johnedmond.co.za or email jredmond@mweb.co.za

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.