



# Contact! Contact!



**December 2010**



A monthly sitrep. for the

## 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*

PO Box 13003, Tauranga 3141, New Zealand.

Web: [www.rhodesianservices.org](http://www.rhodesianservices.org)

Secretary's e-mail [thesecretary@rhodesianservices.org](mailto:thesecretary@rhodesianservices.org)

Editor's e-mail [theeditor@rhodesianservices.org](mailto:theeditor@rhodesianservices.org)

Phone +64 7 576 9500 Fax +64 7 576 9501

**Please Note that all previous publications are available on line at**

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

Seasons greetings to you all,

On behalf of my family, the regular contributors to **Contact! Contact!** and the Rhodesian Services Association committee, I wish you all a Merry and Safe Christmas together with the best wishes for 2011.

I hope that you like the pictures of the Flame Lily above. In explanation for those readers not raised in Rhodesia - the Flame Lily was our national flower. It bloomed around Christmas and for me, it has always had that association with Christmas. Here in New Zealand they grow well if given plenty of sun and our three pots are looking great this year (thanks to Diana's green fingers) and by the looks of them we will have flowers open in a few weeks time - well before Christmas.

There will be no issue of **Contact! Contact!** in January 2011, the next one will be in February 2011. The reason being that I need to have a focused period on my involvement with the Rhodesia Regiment book which is getting all the photographs properly scanned and identified. Some of our regular correspondents are also going to be away. I understand Stompie will be going "walk-about" and Grunter will be visiting friends and family in South Africa, so in the event that you know either of these two I would suggest that you stock up your liquor cabinets because they might be knocking on your door. In the case of Stompie, do not be fooled by the 'down at heel' impression that is portrayed. I know for fact that Stompie was beneficiary of a not insubstantial inheritance from the Auntie who passed on. Where that woman's money (some say "ill gotten") came from should eventually be revealed - but it may take time for the story to be fully revealed, so stay tuned next year and make sure that you don't miss any issues of **Contact! Contact!**

Over this last year we have all had our up's and down's. We have see too many of our good men and women leave us for the 'Forward Recce Group'. So it was with great sadness that I recently received a letter from Fred Tatos in South Africa informing me that he has been diagnosed with an inoperable brain tumour and has but a few months to live. Fred intends to take a flight in a Russian MiG as he has always been an admirer of the Blue Jobs - in particular the two Hunter pilots that came to his mortar troop's assistance when they were outgunned by FRELIMO near Espungabera one time. Fred is also going to visit a few friends around the world and hopes to make it to New

Zealand. Please join me in your own way to do what we can to support people like Fred and any others out there who are in a less fortunate state than ourselves at this time.

To complete the year from me, here is an interesting quote for you in this day and age where political correctness is kow-towed to, minority and radical groups are given credibility as a result of biased reporting, and basic moral values along with common sense have gone out of the window, not to mention the battle that has been going on in England to get recognition for the men of Bomber Command who gave the best years of their lives, and in many cases their lives - let us not forget nor let it be ignored that many of those lives were Rhodesian lives - some of Rhodesia's finest. This quote was written in reference to the Victorian era and the peak of the British Empire, circa 1860:

".....times have changed now but in those days, in defence of a single Briton, the Lion roared once - then sprang" - George Macdonald Fraser.

## 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](mailto:hbomford@clear.net.nz) if required.



Correction from last month's entry - **Claude Purcell** died on the 9<sup>th</sup> October 2010 in Wellington, New Zealand. Apologies for the error.

**Lance Ayliffe** ex RLI died in Hilton, KZN, South Africa on 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2010.

**Tickey Mellet** – *"It with regret and sadness that it falls on me to advise you that another old RLI comrade has left this earth. Tickey Mellet passed away in KZN yesterday (Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> November 2010). Tickey was taken into hospital and underwent an emergency operation on a burst ulcer which had led to internal bleeding. He did not recover and passed away at about 1300h*

*Tickey was born in August 1953 and was well known in the Regiment during his service there.*

*Our sympathies to all Tickey's friends and family. We are thinking of you at this time as we bid farewell to a brother in arms.*

*Kind Regards  
Bill Wiggill  
CEO  
1RLIRA*

*"Ready to go at any time  
Wherever there is trouble or the first sign  
His courage and honour are unsurpassed  
Ready and willing to complete the task*

*Travelling to lands both near and far  
He stands his post and looks at the stars  
Wondering what he might have done  
If he had not chosen to carry a gun"*

## Off The Radar

The email addresses of the people listed below have bounced the last communication sent. If you are in comms with them could you ask them to contact me.

- **Diana Scott** – New Zealand. Diana was in Whangarei where her late husband, John, was a doctor.
- **Noel Brown** – Australia.
- **Richard Byrne** – USA.
- **Timothy Tart** – USA.
- **Robyn Oettl** – South Africa.

We have a frustrating time with some spam blockers and overzealous ISPs that do not allow this very fine publication that has a lot of time and effort put into it by a number of dedicated people to reach the intended destination. If you are able, please check your systems or have your technical people check and ensure that these addresses are cleared as 'friendly':

[thesecretary@rhodesianservices.org](mailto:thesecretary@rhodesianservices.org)  
[theeditor@rhodesianservices.org](mailto:theeditor@rhodesianservices.org)

[hbomford@clear.net.nz](mailto:hbomford@clear.net.nz)

In a lot of cases it is work addresses that are the problem. If you or someone you know is having problems receiving then please provide us with a private email address.

**Please remember to let us know if you are changing your email address.**

### **HM Queen Elizabeth II Continues To Show Support For Rhodesia!**

HM Queen Elizabeth II attended the Epsom Derby on the 5<sup>th</sup> June 2010 wearing one of her favourite brooches. The Flame Lily brooch that she is seen wearing below was presented to her for her 21<sup>st</sup> Birthday while she was on a tour of Southern Africa in 1947 when she was Princess Elizabeth.

The Flame Lily brooch is made of platinum and set with three hundred diamonds. It was a gift from forty-two thousand Southern Rhodesian school children, who had each donated a week's pocket money.

She received it during the royal tour at Government House. The next day the Princess wore the brooch on her left shoulder, a compliment that was appreciated by all of those involved in making it. During Princess Elizabeth and the Duke of Edinburgh's trip to Kenya in 1952, her father King George VI died. When the new Queen returned from South Africa, she wore the brooch pinned to the lapel of her black coat.



**Queen Elizabeth II attending the Epsom Derby 2010. Photos from Life.com**

### **Prince Edward School Memorial**

I have recently received a photo of the PE Roll of Honour. Unfortunately it does not have any dates of death recorded. If anyone can assist with any information or a higher resolution image please contact me as we would like to integrate the correct information into the various Rolls of Honour that are being worked on.



### Project Cobra Update

As reported in the October edition, our latest project is to raise NZ\$2000 with which to purchase a Rhodesian made Cobra, pictured below. There were only around 2,500 of these 9mm pistol-carbines ever made, which makes them rare.

Our intention is to use it as part of a display in tribute to the Rhodesian civilians who displayed such guts and tenacity during the Bush War by refusing to concede to acts of terror.

Underlining the educational purpose of our Association and the Museum Collection we recently had the weapon photographed professionally by Gill Brodie of A2Z Imaging Ltd [www.a2zimaging.co.nz](http://www.a2zimaging.co.nz) for a book on firearms that is being written in South Africa - details:

Title: Ex Africa – The PAAA Reference to 20th Century Firearms Manufactured in Southern Africa

Editor: Chas Lotter

Expected date of publication: July 2013

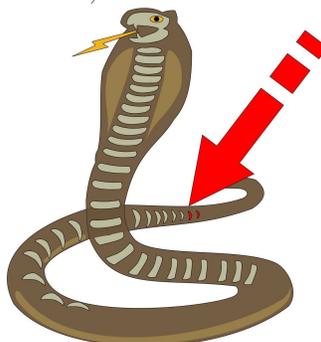
Publisher: Pretoria Arms and Ammunition Association



**Cobra 9mm pistol-carbine**

To assist us with this project, Dudley Wall has made this drawing below for us to use as a visual measure of funds raised. It is inserted on our website at <http://www.rhodesianservices.org/Museum%20Displays.htm>

### Project Cobra



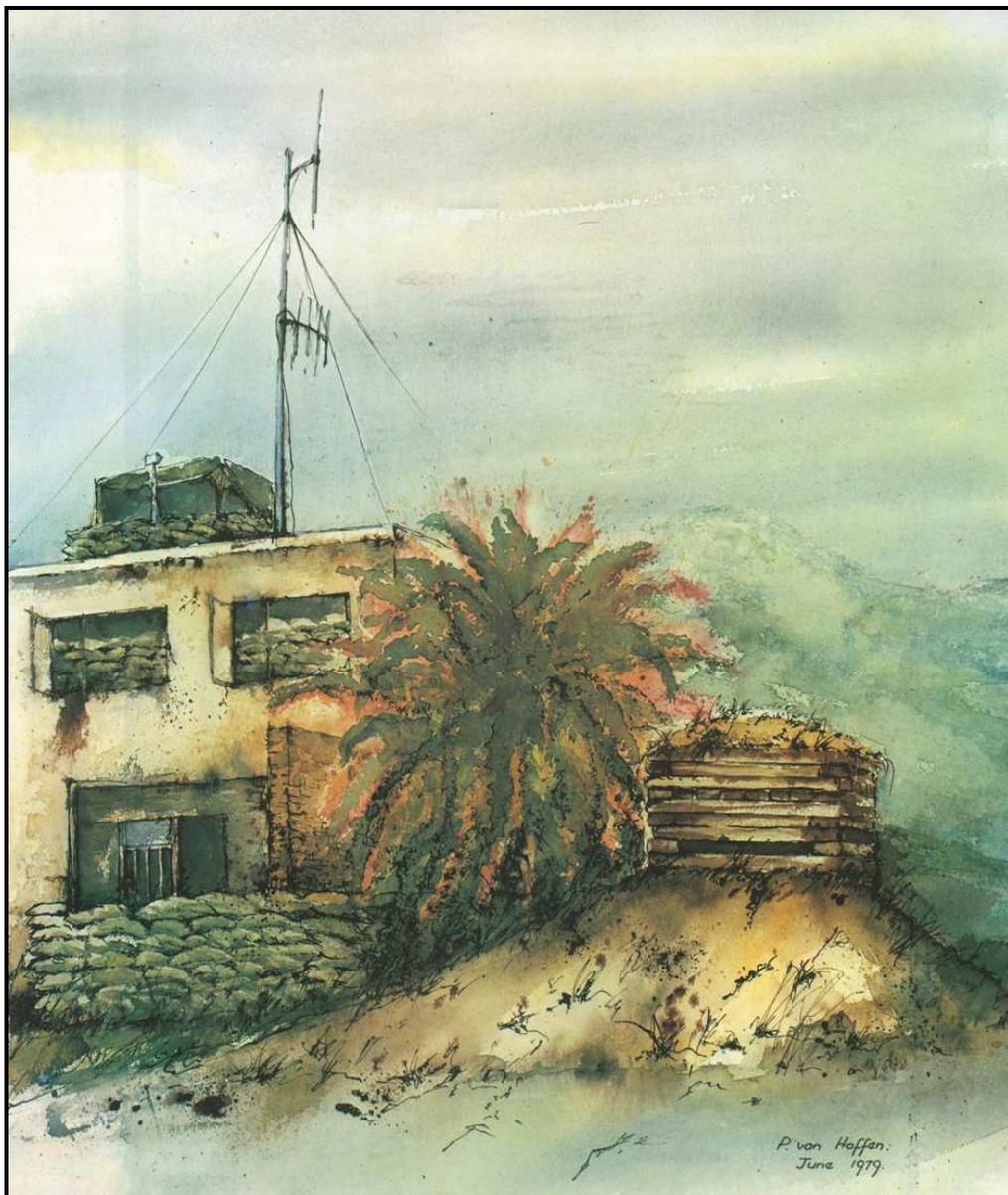
The picture of the cobra will have each segment coloured red to indicate the amount of money raised to date. Each segment represents \$50. We are happy to report that a number of donations were made after the last newsletter was published. New Zealand residents can email [hbomford@clear.net.nz](mailto:hbomford@clear.net.nz) to get our bank details or, if you live outside New Zealand you can make a donation using our PayPal registered address [thecgstore@rhodesianservices.org](mailto:thecgstore@rhodesianservices.org) Cheques from most countries (with the exception of South Africa) are also accepted by our bank. Thank you in advance - every bit helps.

**STOP PRESS** – As this newsletter was about to be distributed we had a substantial donation made by Fred Tatos, for which we are most grateful. This will take us to around the half-way mark. Please visit the webpage linked above for an accurate update a week after getting the newsletter.

### **Peter van Hoffen Calendar**

One of our Auckland members, Ted Preston, lent me a calendar that his good friend Peter van Hoffen published in 1980. Peter died many years ago and his widow Myfanwy (who was in the BSAP A Reserve) lives in Auckland, New Zealand. Peter was an engineer by profession and also a very talented water-colour artist, specialising in landscapes. During his spare time whilst on call-ups with the Police Reserve, Peter painted a number of scenes which he incorporated in a calendar. Published in 1980 and coinciding with Independence, the timing was obviously inopportune and sales were not good.

This is the last of Peter's illustrations. Our thanks to Ted and Myfanwy for helping us share these pictures over the last few months. They have been very well received by the readers of **Contact! Contact!**



**Border Post**

**Lt. Gen. Peter Walls**

Memories play a prominent part in people's lives, and this is especially true for Rhodesians. Family members and people we have known will always be there in one way or another - and so it should be – we should keep our memories alive. And so it is that I am combining a number of pieces together in this column concerning Peter Walls who died on 20<sup>th</sup> July 2010.

Some of you will be aware that Lt. Gen. Walls' medals and other personal items were auctioned through Dix Noonan Webb in England. One of our members was keen to try and obtain the two sets of medals that belonged to Peter Walls' ancestors. While studying the catalogue we found some interesting information that we thought would be of general interest and needed to be shared with the subscribers of this newsletter. In addition to this we received a letter from Mrs Eunice Walls that is also included.

Dix Noonan Webb held the auction on the 1<sup>st</sup> December 2010 and £64,000 was paid for Gen. Walls' full size medal group. Fittingly, this was the highest price paid for a single lot on the auction. The other Walls collection lots went in excess of estimates. Unfortunately, neither of the lots desired by my associate will be coming to New Zealand.

Below is the first picture that I am aware of, that shows the full set of Gen. Walls' medals as worn. From left to right from the top:

Rhodesian Grand Officer of the Legion of Merit (GLM) neck badge;

Rhodesian Grand Officer of the Legion of Merit (GLM) breast star;

Rhodesian Officer of the Legion of Merit (OLM);

Zimbabwe Independence Medal 1980, in silver, officially numbered 0110;

Rhodesian defence Cross for Distinguished Service (DCD);

Rhodesian General Service Medal (RGSM);

Rhodesian Exemplary Service Medal (ESM) with bar denoting 27 years service;

The Most Excellent Order of the British Empire – Military (MBE);

War Medal 1939-45;

General Service Medal 1918-62 with 'Malaya' clasp;

1953 Coronation Medal.



**Lt. Gen. Peter Walls' medals.** Photo from Dix Noonan Webb.

Gen. Wall's father, Lt Col. Reginald William Walls' medals were also on the auction. Our interest in these was raised because we had not been aware of any details of Peter Walls' father before. It struck us as fascinating to consider the number of different units and forces that the Walls family were linked to and therefore befitting in our view that Gen. Walls became head of COMOPS.

In respect to Reginald William Walls the Dix Noonan Webb catalogue states:

*“Reginald William Walls, Lieutenant-General Peter Walls' father, was born in Crowthorne, Berkshire in October 1899 and served aboard the training ship Worcester from April 1915 to April 1917. Subsequently appointed a Temporary Probationary Flying Officer in the Royal Naval Air Service in September of the latter year, he went on to pilot a variety of aircraft, including Curtiss, Avro, B.E. 2c and D.H. 4 types, and was transferred to the Unemployed List in April 1919, having latterly held the rank of 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant in the newly established Royal Air Force.*

*Sometime thereafter he settled in Salisbury, Rhodesia, where at the time of his son's birth in July 1926, he was serving as a Sergeant in the British South Africa Police."*



**Reginald Walls during his service with the Rhodesian African Rifles.** Photo from Dix Noonan Webb

Our further research confirmed that Reginald Walls served in the emerging British Air Force, the British South Africa police and was Officer Commanding the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion Rhodesian African Rifles in 1946.

We also located the archived Gazette recording that on the 2<sup>nd</sup> January 1950 he was awarded the Ordinary Officer of the Military Division of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire (OBE) only a few years before his son Peter, was awarded the MBE for his service in Malaya.

Pictured below is Reginald Walls' medal group – left to right:  
Most Excellent Order of the British Empire (OBE) Military Editor's Note – the medal in the photo below appears to be an MBE as it is silver whereas the OBE is gilded silver;  
British War Medal (WWI);  
British Victory Medal (WWI);  
War Medal 1939-45;  
Army Long Service and Good Conduct Medal.



**Lt. Col. Reginald William Walls' medals.** Photo from Dix Noonan Webb

The following is an open letter to the Rhodesian Services Association from Mrs Eunice Walls.

*"Dear All*

*Thank you for the lovely card from the Rhodesian Services Association.*

*Most of you know that New Zealand had become special to Peter. He was proud of his 6<sup>th</sup> Hauraki membership and keen to know how all you "Rhodies" were settling.*

*He was even beginning to enjoy the All Blacks and watched all the Super 14 games!*

*He leaves big spaces in my life and I appreciate the wonderful letters from all over the world – our "Band of Brothers".*

*Yours with love,  
Eunice"*

This followed with an email in which Eunice says that since Peter's death she has been involved with answering in excess of 250 emails plus many written letters including from "the New Zealand head SAS honcho, who felt that the forming of SAS units in New Zealand and Australia was largely due to the Malaya campaign which Peter led with (they say) such distinction while only twenty three years old. Viscount John Slim, who was in Malaya with Pete and now is Chairman of the UK SAS Assn.; Sir Michael Wilkes; the SAS Assn. and many old mates and many lovely young troopies"

## 11<sup>th</sup> November 2010

On and around the 11<sup>th</sup> November this year there were gatherings from small family and friends to parades and luncheons for Armistice Day and Rhodesia Day. Here are a few reports below.

### Armistice Day Service 11<sup>th</sup> November 2010 – Ron Zager

*“Ken Peake and I participated in the Remembrance Day parade and service in North Bay, Ontario, Canada once again. Today was by far the best day for weather. It was 10 degrees and bright and sunny. There was a good crowd on the street to observe the march from the local armoury to the Memorial Gardens. But inside the Gardens it was the smallest crowd since Ken and I have been participating which is nine years now. I don't think any of the local schools sent any children along this year. However, there were plenty of marchers including youngsters from the local Algonquin Regiment which is a reserve unit who have been recruiting lately. While on the bus from the Royal Canadian Legion to the armoury Ken mentioned quite a few names of guys from the Rhodesia Regiment whom we both new and who paid the supreme price. Not in vain. Rhodesia was a country worth dying for.”*

### Armistice Day Service 17<sup>th</sup> November 2010 – Gerry van Tonder

*“The service was held at St Margaret's Church/Westminster Abbey Field of Remembrance, just around the corner from the Cenotaph, so we were able to go along with Big Ben at the eleventh hour together with a very loud report from a field gun heralding the start and the end of the two minutes silence. Full marks go to the Rhodesian Army Association for a well organised event. This included a consecration of the colours/flags used at the service - BSAP, RLI, RhAF, Intaf, RAA.”*



**Rhodesian Colour Party** – photo Gerry van Tonder



**Rhodesian Remembrance Plot** – photo by Gerry van Tonder

### Letter to the 'Times' – Peter 'PB' Petter-Bowyer

*“On Remembrance Sunday we repeat our promise, “At the going down of the sun and in the morning – WE WILL REMEMBER THEM”. Yet, since 1965, the British government has banned Rhodesian veterans from remembering their own fallen comrades in the Cenotaph parade. Rhodesia's small white population provided, per capita, the*

highest number of servicemen and suffered the highest percentage losses of any national group that participated in WWII. In 1940 the Rhodesian Government had to stop many volunteers leaving so as to maintain vital services inside Rhodesia.

With black majority rule, Africa became a pawn in the Cold War and USSR propaganda demonised Rhodesia's white government. The result was Robert Mugabe's thirty-year campaign of national devastation and personal looting.

The white minority Rhodesian Government simply wished to keep the country in responsible hands whilst preparing the black majority to govern. Appalling developments in newly independent black countries made Rhodesians fear their country would follow suit. Their fears have been amply realised.

Unlike Australia and Canada, who decimated their indigenous peoples, Rhodesia expanded its black population from about 400,000 in 1890 to over 7 million by 1980. The country was entirely self-sufficient in food, with a highly efficient infrastructure of schools and medical facilities. Power-hungry nationalists took over a superbly managed country and destroyed it.

Surviving Rhodesians refuse to participate as Zimbabweans in London's Remembrance Sunday because the name 'Zimbabwe' now represents Mugabe's wholesale greed, corruption and the murders that have caused millions to flee their country or face every imaginable depravity.

Perhaps it is a blessing that Rhodesians who fought and died for King and country could not foresee how their sacrifice would be rendered worthless by successive British Governments. Nevertheless, Rhodesians in London on Remembrance Sunday will hold their own simple isolated remembrance service to honour fallen colleagues officially forgotten for reasons of 'political correctness'

With kind regards'  
PJH Petter-Bowyer"

#### Rhodesia Day, Auckland, New Zealand

Unfortunately, due to Armistice Day not being a public holiday in New Zealand many members had work commitments and so there was a small turnout for the gathering on the 11<sup>th</sup> November at 11am at the Hobsonville RSA in Auckland.



**L-R Mike Mason, Alison Hucke, Wolf Hucke, John Glynn, Percy Smith**

There was a bigger turnout at the Barn Party hosted by Alison and Wolf Hucke on the 13<sup>th</sup> November.

"Wolf opened the party by explaining what happened after UDI and why. The evening continued with a visit to Alison's studio, feeding the friendly horse, a braai and entertainment by Douaine and Dorothea on guitars and Jack Maddox on his banjo with everyone singing along. Alison performed the poi (a traditional Maori dance performed with balls attached to strings) and the young boys went exploring the farm after dark with a torch looking for lizards. (Editor's note – I am surprised that lizards are tolerated anywhere near the Hucke residence! For those unfamiliar with Rhodesian slang, a 'lizard' was someone who was considered a shirker in the army. Therefore I can only assume that the lizards these boys were looking for were the reptilian version.)

*A great evening was had by all and the consensus was that we should have more family orientated evenings like this one.*

*Alison and Wolf Hucke"*

Rhodesia Day greetings from Peter Mitchell

*"Hello to you all and please accept my warmest greetings to all Rhodesians, wherever you are, on this very special day.*

*I would particularly care to say hello to all those who lived and fought for Rhodesia in the Mrewa – Mtoko - Mudzi, (Op Hurricane) where I was based at JOC Mtoko camp hospital for three years and got to love the best country in the world where lived the best people of all colours and races.*

*I can never forget the great hearts of everyone as well as those in other units such as the heroes of Intaf and their families who at times seem to be in the background of accolades but who are remembered by the line of a poem "What God abandoned, these defended...", BSAP, those PRAW pilots who flew me to so many places and the Aussies and associates of Guard Force.*

*Great memories today of the best of times and the worst of times, places and friends.*

*Honour and loyalty know no bounds and neither do betrayal and treachery, but Rhodesians live by the former and survive the latter with their endless spirit.*

*Best regards always,  
Peter Mitchell  
(Sgt. 2 Brigade JOC Mtoko)."*

## **Rhodesian Citizenship**

At our AGM in October 2010 Jack Maddox asked to address the meeting. The ensuing speech by Jack was very emotional and yet another reminder to us of what a wonderful country we had and how highly it was regarded by those who came to share it with us and in what high regard that time is still held.

Kiwi-born Jack Maddox, a Rhodesian ex-pat', is a fifty year fire-fighter veteran who served in both Municipal and Airport Fire Services in Rhodesia and Nyasaland and who served as a BSAP Special Reservist. He opened his address to the meeting by showing us his 'Citizen of Rhodesia' document. He then quoted from the page titled 'My Duties as a Citizen of Rhodesia':

"It is my duty to be just, tolerant and courteous to my fellow countrymen, and to act for the peaceful coexistence of all communities." Jack went on to say "This is what came through for me during this RV weekend, and I'd like to bequeath this document to your museum if you have not already got a copy."

## My Duties as a Citizen of Rhodesia

It is my duty to obey the laws of my country.

It is my duty to hold myself available to join in the defence of my country in time of need.

It is my duty to serve on a jury if called upon to do so.

It is my duty to pay such taxes as may be levied.

It is my duty to protect the good name of my country and to refrain from any action which may injure it.

It is my duty to take an interest in national affairs and to use my vote conscientiously.

It is my duty to enter into and associate myself with the social, economic and cultural life of my country.

It is my duty to assist in the preservation of the natural beauty of my country and to conserve its soil, water and natural resources.

It is my duty to be just, tolerant and courteous to my fellow countrymen, and to act for the peaceful coexistence of all communities.

## My Rights and Privileges as a Citizen of Rhodesia

I have the right to live in Rhodesia.

I have the right to acquire the qualifications entitling me to vote and to seek election to the Parliament of my country.

I have the right to freedom of speech and conscience.

I have the right to freedom of worship in the religion of my choice.

I have the right to improve my position.

I have the right to demand respect for my personal dignity, my liberty, my property and the privacy of my home.

I have the right to join any lawful organization of people with whom I have interests in common.

I have the right to the protection of the courts of justice if ever my rights are impaired or threatened.

I have the privilege of sharing in my country's natural resources.

I have the privilege of contributing to my country's cultural and economic development.

Jack continued, "After our first social get-together at Hobsonville last year, we got home and I asked my Kiwi-born wife Jeanette (who has never been to Africa) "Well what do you think of the Rhodesians?" She replied "I enjoyed myself and I can understand why you like the Rhodesians, they are NICE people"

Jack then read the first verse of the poem 'I Wish You..' by Michelle Frost which is included in full for this article. (Michelle is a subscriber to **Contact! Contact!**):

I wish you an African morning,  
I wish you an Eden land.  
Ivory grasses spread at your feet,  
thorn trees and copper sand.  
Where the first cool moments of dawning  
are scorched by the bright sun's birth,  
and molten horizons miraged by the heat  
quiver above the earth.

I wish you an African sunset,  
I wish you a sky on fire.  
A thousand red blood-glow horizon  
of the day's passed funeral pyre.  
Where the shredded clouds form a dark net  
to catch the last bright blaze  
of the mighty fleeing bronze-cast sun  
As it sets in a scarlet haze.

I wish you an African midnight.  
I wish you an heavenly sea.  
To drown in a dark star ocean  
And float on the tide back to me.  
Where the foam of the waves is the starlight  
that swirls through the endless skies.  
To billow and crash without motion  
And beach in a spray of fireflies.

Copyright Michelle Frost ~ December 2001

Jack concluded his address, "Thank you, and Hamba Gashle"

In a subsequent email to me Jack wrote:

*"Hugh - I've been home twenty four years now, but the greater part of my life was spent in Africa. Trying to settle down in 'Kiwi-land' after so many years away has me wondering whatever happened to the NZ I left behind. It had changed so much. I always felt something was 'missing' ... joining the Rhodesian Services Association has fulfilled that missing 'ache' - thank you for being there, and having an Association with like-minded dedicated people is a special joy for me and my wife, Jeanette. I even transferred my RSA membership to Hobsonville! I look forward to continuing a very satisfying relationship."*

### **Rhodesian Services Association Membership update**

Our current financial membership stands at around the same number that we reached last year – 130. There are still a lot who have not renewed from 2009. Please contact our Secretary, Chuck Osborne by email [thesecretary@rhodesianservices.org](mailto:thesecretary@rhodesianservices.org) to check on your status and for payment details if required. This year's annual subscription is NZ\$10 - lets make is a record year for financial membership numbers.

Newsletter subscribers continue to add up with around ten per week registering. The newsletter now goes directly to over 1,500 world wide with it being sent on second hand to many more.

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

Howzit,

I understand that the editor of this rag has disclosed some personal details of mine in the editorial. This breach of privacy has led me to consider withdrawing my services. However, as it is nearly Christmas, and as a result of my dear Auntie's carefully stored letters, diaries and note books, I think that I probably have far more 'dirt' on many of you which I shall take great pleasure in revealing as time goes on. Being the person that I am, a little squirming from the floor will serve my amusement just fine!

It has been a long battle with various people to finally get sight of my inheritance. Those of you who have loaned me money in the past - fear not, your cheques are in the post. Those of you who seek to hit me up for an m'basella - forget it, you have probably spoken ill of me in the past and my wallet is firmly fastened in your case.

Now to business, this letter below is the latest in my 'retrieval' process. You will note the reference to The Queen's Hotel. History buffs and other duffel coat wearing know-alls will no doubt be jumping up and down roaring that Queen's Hotel was built in 1900 and set to writing snitty letters to Stompie crying foul over the authenticity of these letters. It is fact that the current Queen's Hotel was built in 1900 and renovated in 1998, but it is also a little known fact that the current building was built on the site of the original building that was destroyed by fire a year or so prior.

I can envision a few of you smirking at the mention of Queen's - as well you might, especially if you were part of a group of three Kiwi adventurers who I heard spent at least one night there in the 1980's during their little tour of Africa. I believe that they were reported to comment that "the sheets were very well starched". Considering that they had just spent a week or so in a Lusaka jail under the kindly care of Weeping Kenneth's Zambian police force, I imagine that Queen's was considered to be somewhat more luxurious and with better entertainment. However my lips are sealed - for now anyway!

The Queen's Hotel  
Pioneer Street  
Fort Salisbury

Please forward to:  
The Hon. Clarence Willoughby-Scorn, Bart.,  
Hut 14  
Kaguvu's Kraal  
Buhera District  
Mashonaland Territory

18th July 1893

Esteemed Tosser,  
Having no forwarding address, I have sent this missive to your last known abode in the hope that by now you will have been able to consign Beauty to the realm of deserted wenches and that you are out of sight of the poisonous wretches you encountered in the Buhera region (an unfavourable place at the best of times, with possibly the ugliest goats in the empire).

Managing to elude a number of ridiculous claims from would-be creditors - despite an anxious moment or two at the Umvuma hostelry when I thought the window frame in the gentlemen's facilities might not allow my hasty and necessary exit - I have, can you believe it, made my way to the famed Fort Salisbury.

A few successful hands of cards have enabled me to secure mediocre accommodation at an establishment named The Queen's Hotel. While there is no prospect whatsoever of the good Queen Vic herself ever visiting the premises, it does have its compensations. Curiously there seem to be no male employees at all and a considerable number of sloe-eyed ladies of dusky hue live here in small rooms, but the rates are very reasonable. I do find it difficult to sleep though, as there seems to be a lot of visitors here at all hours of the night for some reason, and I am sure I have heard Trooper de Klerk's voice among the revelry and unaccountable squeals of laughter that echo down the passages.

I am a little concerned that the ladies who live here are badly off as they seem to own little clothing, judging by the way they are clad. Some of them are very comely, I must say, though being a gentleman I avert my eyes when passing them and only sneak a glance when they are unawares. Being blessed, as you know, with the ability to mix freely with all types while still retaining my class distinction, I am admittedly beginning to ponder becoming more involved in the social aspects of this quaint hostelry, but more of that anon.

Searching the town for a familiar face and some company of my own class, I made use of a one-horse carriage driven by a knowledgeable native man who was able to point out the landmarks of this thriving young settlement. I was very grateful for his assistance and console myself that I did at least pay him for one of the two days I had promised him. Needs must, as you know old boy - upon reaching the newly established Salisbury Club one evening, it was clear that my funding priority was the evening's entertainment, and not the trap driver's wage. So a moonlight flit it had to be while he turned the carriage. Two sovereigns to a mulatto cousin of the concierge secured me a passable facsimile of a club membership card and of course my accent and a few dropped names did the rest on entering the bar area.

A potentially embarrassing encounter with a creditor was narrowly averted by my slipping a black ball into the unattended manager's office, accompanied by a note naming the former and purporting to be signed by Messrs Rhodes and Beit, (with whose signatures I had familiarized myself quite some time ago, for reasons on which I will not dwell here). The note indicated that he was no longer acceptable in the premises due to unpaid gambling debts and an unsettled tailor's bill, as well as his actions being the suggested reason for the departure of a large unmarried local milliner who was with child.

The unfortunate fellow, Herbert Smith-Gormley (known as 'SG') is not really one of us anyway. The large ex-Guards club manager, with a very stern expression seized SG's arm and led him out, screeching, past his erstwhile drinking companions, while loudly reciting the contents of the note. SG's protestations and shouts of wrath only served to draw attention to his plight and the sinister allegations and it was rewarding to see the studied expressions of indifference on the faces of those he had earlier fancied as friends, who now knew him to be bounder.

(Happily, his well-stocked wallet happened to fall next to me in the course of his struggles and well, finder's keeper's and so forth ...) Looking down onto the street I saw him just as he happened to look up and catch sight of me. I waved my kerchief and he looked fit to burst, but clearly realizing the game was up, he performed what appeared to be some kind of Italian military salute, curiously extending a digit at the same time.

The evening turned out to be an excellent one and fortuitously I met up with none other than old Randy - Lord Randolph Titchell - he of the luxurious moustache and unmentionable affliction that I understand has since affected his mental agility somewhat. Even better, it turned out that the now disgraced SG had been his Aide de Camp and it took no more than a few selective mentions of my military and sporting achievements, plus a Scotch or two (signed on SG's bar account) before he happily suggested that I become his new ADC, a position I accepted with alacrity.

The matter of horse racing and gymkhana events came up and so we attended preparations for the forthcoming inaugural horse race, with Trooper de Klerk in attendance. The race itself was to take place on the following day. De Klerk, in his usual manner, soon established that the betting was to be high, given the competition between a couple of favourite horses, one owned by Lord Randolph himself, and greatly fancied for a win, with the bookmakers doing a brisk trade as a result.

A tour of the stalls revealed that Randy's black horse, Malplaquet, bore an uncanny resemblance to de Klerk's own mount, Malgat, with the exception that the former had a white blaze on his forehead and a single white stocking on its right forefoot, while de Klerk's own charger (if one can be liberal in applying the term) had no white blaze or white stocking. That evening de Klerk volunteered to stay and assist at the stables, to keep an eye on Lord Randolph's steed, explaining that scurrilous and untrustworthy people were to be found at local horse events. In an aside de Klerk also mentioned to me that he had heard that the other odds-on favourite looked in fact to be a better bet than Malplaquet, despite Randolph's views and that perhaps I should consider any wagers accordingly which, fortunately as it turned out, I did.

Randy and I repaired to the club again in the evening before the race, secure in the knowledge that de Klerk had Randy's pride and joy under a watchful eye at the stables.

The Race Day itself was quite something to behold - bunting everywhere, ladies in bonnets and finery, escorted by sporting gentlemen and menservants, plus of course the brightly clad jockeys and horses - what a sight - and money changing hands fast and furiously at the bookmakers' stalls. There was the usual parade and then the horses lined up and having placed my bets - without disclosure to Randy of course, who assumed I was odds-on for Malplaquet - we eagerly watched as they took off on the four-furlong-length race. Malplaquet was easily distinguishable by the white blaze on his forehead and the white stocking on his right foreleg.

He took off like a rocket, regardless of the four-furlong distance and the crowd roared with Randy beside himself with glee. Alas, this incredible start was to last a mere 300 yards when the visibly labouring Malplaquet, in full stride, suddenly came to an immediate stop in response to a loud whistle that seemed remarkably similar to one that Trooper de Klerk uses to halt his own horse when charging toward an armed enemy. The jockey, however, continued at speed and I must confess that the sight of him in full flight, clad in emerald and yellow, legs and arms wind milling, stunned even the most devout race goers. For an instant, while still airborne, he was level with us, shouting something that sounded like "basket swapped me cooking ores". He landed just as the rest of the pack reached him and disappeared in a welter of hooves and whips, so we will never know what he meant, unfortunately.

The other odds-on favourite won the race, to my discreet glee. By this time the halted racer had leapt the fence rails and de Klerk could be seen on a horse (unfamiliar to me) with which he managed to retrieve the beast, leading it swiftly to the stables. After consoling Randy on his losses - and surreptitiously claiming my winnings when a moment presented itself - I suggested that he accompany me to go and see that his racer was in sound condition after this incredible course of events.

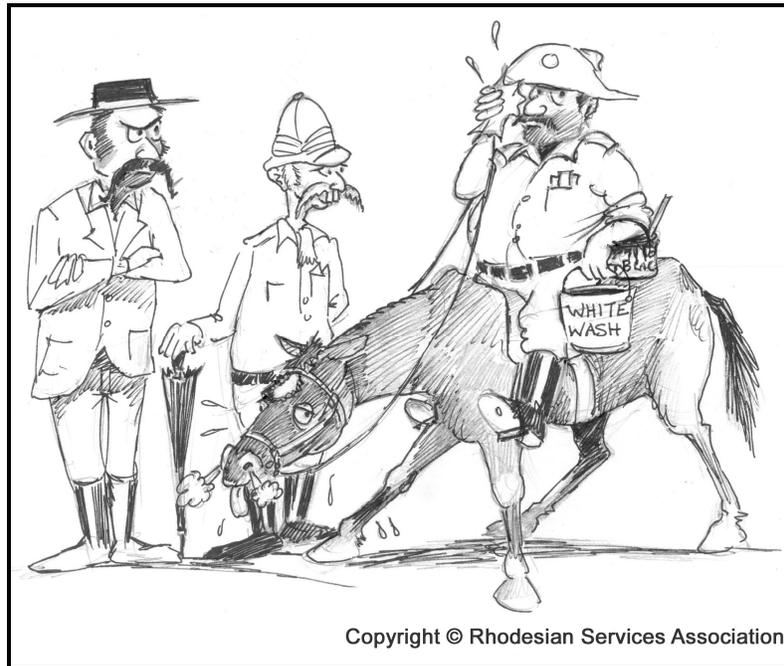
We arrived to find Trooper de Klerk leading his own horse Malgat, away from the stables where, he assured us, Malplaquet had just been rubbed down, fed and watered. Randolph was greatly reassured to see his steed in calm condition and so well cared for that it was not even perspiring despite the earlier events.

I later had the opportunity to speak to de Klerk, who was for some reason carrying a tin of whitewash and whose horse in fact looked quite tired despite the short walk from the stables. After a slight hesitation he assured me that this was to paint his landlady's outdoor facilities. The black paint he was also inexplicably carrying was, he said, to be used for the door. By chance I noticed that his horse had a white blaze on its face which I did not recall ever seeing before, but he explained that this particular breed was prone to rapid ageing in certain parts of its body at higher altitudes after encountering Rinderpest and that clearly this was a symptom.

Happenstance would have it that de Klerk had reaped substantial winnings from his wagers on the race, just as I had done, so it was indeed a day of good fortune for both of us. Although downcast, Lord Randolph accepted my invitation to a drink at the Queen's Hotel, which visit he thoroughly enjoyed from all accounts, staying till the early hours, and now seems to have become somewhat of a regular there.

All of this means I am in fine fettle and it would give me considerable pleasure to know that your fortunes are now on the mend, old boy.

Yours aye  
Tugger



Copyright © Rhodesian Services Association

“Carry on de Klerk, well done lad”

Until next year – have a good Christmas, be good next year, or if you can't – don't get caught,



## Grunter's Good Oil

Greetings All

As promised last month we will continue with various articles and snippets on some of our shottists. Thanks to all of you who have sent me various bits and pieces. I have received quite a bit of information so I am going to have to cover it over a couple of months. This month I will share with you the stories of two groups of people. The first couple is Darren and Gillian Enslin. They have both represented Australia since moving there in 2003. I went to agricultural college with Darren and so we go back quite a long way. The following is extracted from the material that was sent to me.

The Palma Trophy is shot for at the World Long Range Shooting Championships (over 800, 900 and 1000 yards) which Darren Enslin won in 1999 in Bloemfontein, South Africa. This was pivotal to him getting a visa into Australia (Distinguished Talents Visa).

Gillian's great grandfather was awarded a trophy by Cecil John Rhodes, so she can call herself a 4<sup>th</sup> generation Rhodesian shottist. In 2007 both Darren and Gillian represented the Australian Palma Rifle Team and won a bronze medal in Canada.



**Gillian Webb-Enslin top scores in the Palma Match and sets a new world record.**

*"Couple fire up to help beat Kiwis by Doug Gillett - NewsMail 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2010*



**Gillian Webb-Enslin and husband Darren Enslin display their medals following Australia's win over New Zealand in an international long rifle match in Brisbane.**

*"The marksmanship of high-calibre Apple Tree Creek couple Darren Enslin and Gillian Webb-Enslin led Australia to victory in the National Target Rifle Championships this week. Australia triumphed over New Zealand in the one-day trans-Tasman competition held at the Belmont Shooting Range in Brisbane. The couple served in the critical roles of opening lead-off shooter and closer during the event, helping Australia sneak home to victory, 1753-1732.*

*Mr Enslin said he and his wife had returned to their Apple Tree Creek home exhausted after an intense battle with the Kiwis. "It was pretty hard going and there was quite a bit of pressure on us as the lead-off and closer shooters," he said.*

*"It was fantastic to come back with the result, though. It's always good to beat our mates across the ditch." Mr Enslin said the result had given the Australian team confidence as it prepared for the world championships, which are on the same shooting range in October next year.*

*"We're shaping up to have an excellent team and we will be familiar with the range and weather conditions, so things are looking good," he said.*

*"It's the pinnacle of our sport and it's something the Australian team will be working very hard towards."*

*The couple will travel to Wellington, New Zealand, in January to compete in the New Zealand Open Championships."*

The following is a series of emails from Adrian Hagget:

From Adrian to Grunter:

"Greetings Grunter

*I have just read your piece in the Rhodesian Services Assn. newsletter and thought I would forward very recent comms between Barry Enslin and myself. Barry was DC Mrewa at the time and a formidable shot. I was a civilian teaching in Gwelo. Before joining the shooting team at the School of Infantry I was coaching the wife of Captain Nigel Galvin on the small-bore range at Guinea Fowl School. When the school folded Nigel informed me that their*

constitution stated that 25% of the School of Infantry team could be made up by civilians and, hence, my move to big-bore shooting. Herewith my exchanges with Barry, thirty two years after we last saw each other.  
Adrian”

Adrian to Barry:

“I was having lunch yesterday with Barbara and Allan David-Anderson when your name came up for some reason. A little bell rang in my head because I am sure we used to shoot against each other in the 1970s. I was a member of the School of Infantry Team with Gordon James, Butch Pelzer, Terry Hammond, Nigel Galvin and John Neistead.

Were you not part of the BSAP contingent when we flew to the SA Championships in Bloemfontein in 1978? Don Hollingsworth won the overall competition that year. Other BSAP members were Rex Tarr and big John van den Berg.

Adrian”

Barry’s reply to Adrian:

“How about that ‘blast from the past’!

You are quite correct. Don won the SA Championships in ‘78, Wrex was second, and we did fly down together. Yes, I do remember you. I was in the company of Mike Cary, Gordon James, Roy Edley and a Hammond but not Terry, only three months ago at a get-together arranged by Mike who had invited many of his old Rhodesian Corps of Engineers pals of yesteryear.”



**Four old shooting pals from the Rhodesian Service Rifle Team of 1978, photo in February 2010. L-R Mike Cary, Rod Edley, Gordon James, Barry Enslin.**

“Just for the record, we Rhodesians, as you will no doubt remember, distinguished ourselves at Service Rifle shooting, with Roy Edley winning in 1975, Boet Lamprecht in 1976 and ‘77, Don in ‘78. Then, in 1980 Rhodesians went to Bisley in England, missing the SA Championships. Very few Rhodesians attended the SA Championships after 1980.

A Captain ‘Pottie’ Potgieter of the SA Defence Force won in 1980, ‘81, ‘82 and ‘83.

In 1984 I joined the Orange Free State Commandos and won the SA Champs. and was awarded Springbok colours. After that Pottie, myself and four others toured to Chile, Argentine and Paraguay.

That means that over the ten years 1974 to 1984 only two South Africans had won the SA Champs. with the other four winners being Rhodesians. Admittedly Potgieter had four wins in a row to his credit! I was proud to unseat him in ‘84.

Sorry to spring this on you, but your letter excited this old warhorse.  
Barry.”

Adrian’s reply to Barry:

“Barry I certainly cannot match your illustrious list of shooting awards – it is quite staggering – but, I did make a name for myself on that ‘78 trip to Bloem. I don’t know if you were with us the afternoon we were taken for a tour of the Musgrave factory. We watched them make a .458 rifle from start to finish including the walnut on a copy lathe for the butt and stock, the rifling and the entire assembly. When it was done we went downstairs to the zeroing tunnel where the armourer leafed through his box of targets and pulled one for the .458. The bulls-eye was the exact diameter of the bullet. I was pretty scrawny in those days as I was into marathon running. When the armourer invited someone to take the first shot, Gordon James was very quick to offer my services and received the full support of all the other Rhodesians in the group – don’t thank Gordon for this when you next see him!

*Being a civilian in the team I didn't know much about rifles but, I did know a .458 would probably break my shoulder. I was crapping myself! Anyway, I was given one round and slotted it into the breach. With my elbows on the counter I squeezed the butt as hard as I could into my shoulder, and took aim at the illuminated target 25m away in an underground tunnel. I do remember telling myself not to close my eyes in fear of the recoil but, when the barrel jumped, I had no idea where the round had ended up. Upon inspection, through the scope next to me, I declared, "Oh shit – I've missed the whole bloody thing!" There was not a mark on the target – not even on any of the white areas! The onlookers contorted into a bird's-nest of laughter and mockery. Then, the armourer asked me to step away from the counter and I was left to savour the barrage of abuse inflicted by my team mates.*

*Suddenly, the armourer turned and asked if I played golf, to which I replied in the affirmative. Then he asked if I had ever had a hole in one, which I never have. He then wound the target towards him and invited Gordon to inspect it. There was a hole clean through the bull – the round had removed all evidence of ink from the .458 bulls-eye which, of course, I had not picked up because the bull was just as black through the scope as it had been before I let the round fly. Apparently, the feat had never been achieved in the history of Musgrave and the armourer requested to frame the target for the hallway of the factory.*

*The other Rhodesians were somewhat quiet for the rest of the afternoon!*

*On the range, we did manage to win a bronze in one of the team events. I still have my medal somewhere.  
Adrian"*

And finally, a quick word from Zimbabwe. It is pleasing to note that the sport of shooting is alive and well in Zimbabwe. Apparently this photo was snapped at the Cleaveland Range recently!



Many thanks to you all who have sent in your news and as I said earlier I will carry on with the shooting theme in the New Year so please keep sending me anything you would like to share.

We are spending Christmas in Durban this year with a long overdue trip back to see family and friends. This is our first visit back since we moved here in 2003 and we are all looking forward to a good break. This leaves me to wish you all a Merry and peaceful Christmas to wherever you may be this year. I will look forward to starting again in the New Year and may 2011 bring you and your loved ones a prosperous and healthy year ahead. Don't forget that there is a no small matter of the William Webb Ellis trophy up for grabs next year. Bring it on!!

Until then have a good one.

Regards Grunter  
Email [fourstreams@clear.net.nz](mailto:fourstreams@clear.net.nz)

## **What's On In New Zealand?**

### **AUCKLAND**

If you reside in the Auckland area please email Wolf and Alison Hucke at [whucke@slingshot.co.nz](mailto:whucke@slingshot.co.nz) for more details of the monthly social meetings. Generally these are on the third Saturday of the month either at the Hobsonville RSA or the Massey Archery Club, Redhills Road, Massey. All are most welcome.

### **TAURANGA**

The Garrison Club run by the 6<sup>th</sup> Battalion (Hauraki) Group Regimental Association, is open every Friday from 16:00 hrs and welcomes visitors. 'Graze and Movie Evenings' are held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday of every month with proceeds being donated to the Hauraki Museum. Email me at [hbomford@clear.net.nz](mailto:hbomford@clear.net.nz) to get on that mailing list to see what is on and notification of any changes. Please note that the chef and projectionist will be taking a break over December and January so the next session will be the 11<sup>th</sup> February 2011.

## HAMILTON

Hamiltonians - please contact Tinka Mushett email [mushett@slingshot.co.nz](mailto:mushett@slingshot.co.nz) or cell +64 21 722 922 for details of socials being planed in your area.

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

Please give our CQ Store consideration when buying a present for friends or family. Above is the web page link and below is a list of our stock.

### Flame Lily embroidery.

Our friends at Sew Hot, who do all our embroidery, have made up a great looking flame lily pattern. At the time of publication they are waiting on our flame lilies to bloom so that they can colour match with the real thing. Please watch the CQ Store page for updates on the release of this new line of embroidered caps, shirts and beanies.

### Long Service Medals

We have received a number of requests from people for long service medals that they believe they were entitled to but did not receive. We will not supply medals to anyone who cannot find or view proof of entitlement.

Dealing with these requests is not easy for me as CQ for a number of reasons, not least of all that I don't like to disappoint people, especially when I know how hard it was to earn a medal in the Rhodesian Security Forces in comparison with what you see swinging on chests of today's soldiers at parades. We use what reference material is available to us, which is pretty accurate, but at the end of the day anyone who received an award in Rhodesia would have had some documentation or proof which we would like to see. We are not here to make a judgment other than that which is based on fact.

### What is hot this month?

In consideration to those of you freezing in England currently we recently had the Rhodesian Coat of Arms put on our green 'turn up' beanie. It looks great, even in this average quality photo. Please note that it can only go on this type of beanie as the model with no turn up has a much wider knit and the embroidery uses a lot of very fine stitches.



**Green turn up beanie with Rhodesian Coat of Arms NZ\$22 plus postage**

Also for those in winter mode, we have polar fleece jackets on which we can place any of our embroidery patterns – Lion & Tusk, Rhodesian Coat of Arms and Flame Lily.

We can supply the black lined version in any size and future supply does not seem to be a problem whereas with green we only have a limited stock of lined ones.

Our supplier will not be importing any more of the lined green pattern so once our stock of these green lined jackets is gone we will only be able to supply unlined green jackets. Your inquiry is welcome.



### Polar Fleece Jacket NZ\$65

We are fully stocked with short sleeve Rhodesian Rugby jerseys. There has been a delay with the long sleeve ones which we expect to receive in January now. We do have most sizes of long sleeve and your inquiry is welcome. All our jerseys are NZ\$125 plus postage which is a very good price for a good solid garment. I was recently stunned to see rugby union and league replica jerseys for sale for NZ\$185 and they were made from thin modern synthetic materials.

Our rugby jerseys are the most accurate replicas available.



**Rhodesian Rugby Jersey NZ\$125**

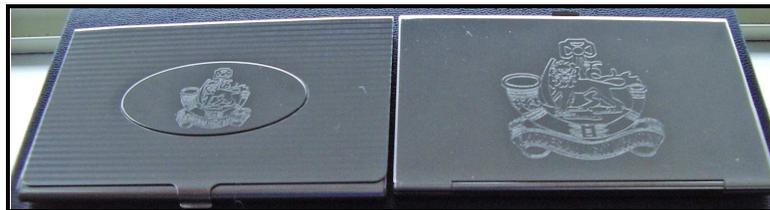
The Bumper Sticker – Unit Badges have been going like hot cakes and we have added the Grey's Scouts to the inventory.



**Grey's Scouts Bumper Sticker NZ\$5**

Please go to our webpage to view all the other unit badges that we stock - BSAP, Rhodesian Air Force, Rhodesian Artillery, Grey's Scouts, RLI, RLI with wings, Rhodesia Regiment, Rhodesia Regiment with FNs, SAS, Selous Scouts. They were all drawn for us by Dudley Wall to whom we are most grateful

In addition to our standard Lion & Tusk engraved business card holders we also have RLI ones. The RLI badge is engraved on the front and back as pictured below. They are stainless steel, slim line, hard wearing and hold approximately ten business cards.



**Business Card Holder with RLI badge. Top view on left and bottom on right.**

### Sample of 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

Bumper Stickers – Unit	\$5ea
Business Card Holder – stainless steel with Lion & Tusk engraved	\$20
Berets	\$50
Cuff link & tie pin boxed set	\$55
Lapel pin - Para Wings – gold plate or Enamel	\$15
Lapel Pin – Rhodesian Flag	\$10
Lion & Tusk Aprons	\$30
Lion & Tusk or Rhodesian Coat of Arms Baseball Caps	\$25
Lion & Tusk or Rhodesian Coat of Arms Beanies green or black	\$22
Lion & Tusk Dog Tags	\$30
Lion & Tusk or Rhodesian Coat of Arms Polar Fleece jackets – long sleeved in green, black, navy	\$65
Lion & Tusk or Rhodesian Coat of Arms Polo shirts - black or green	\$38
Lion & Tusk or Rhodesian Coat of Arms T-shirts - black or green	\$30
Lion & Tusk Women’s v-neck stretch shirts - black	\$30
Medal Ribbon Devices – MFC, Commissioner’s Commendation, bars etc.	\$30
Name badge – resin coated	\$15
Number plate surrounds – 4 styles to choose from	\$12
Pocket Insert Medal Holder	\$15
Poster “Be a man among men”	\$25
Poster “Rhodesian Bush War”	\$30
Poster – Rhodesian Map accurate as at Oct. 1977	\$60
Poster “Terrorism Stops Here!” 2 in series	\$50 ea
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	\$45
Regimental ties – Rhodesian African Rifles	\$40
Regimental ties – SAS (badged SAS only)	\$55
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 Medal for Territorial or Reserve Service full size copy (solid silver & gold) with ribbon	\$150
Rhodesian Police Long Service Medal full size copy (solid silver) with ribbon	\$160
Southern Rhodesia War Service Medal full size copy (solid silver) with ribbon	\$150
Rhodesian Flag 3’ x 5’ (900mm x 1500mm) ready to fly	\$40
Rhodesian Flag, embroidered 110mm x 50mm	\$20
Rhodesian replica rugby jerseys – short or long sleeve	\$125
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

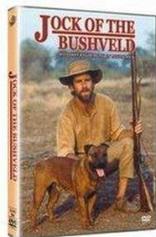
## Books for Africa

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

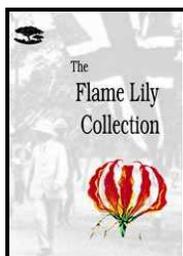
and not the Rhodesian Services Association. However, the Association does benefit indirectly from these sales. A great selection of books, many with a Rhodesian connection, can be found on the link above.

Best buys:

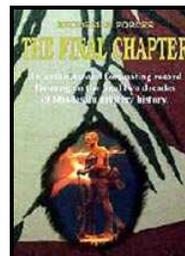
DVDs – more info and description on the website link above:-



**Jock of the Bushveld** DVD NZ\$45

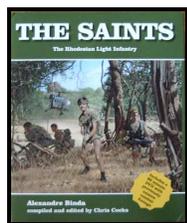


**The Flame Lily Collection** 2 discs NZ\$75

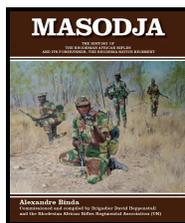


**The Final Chapter** single disc DVD NZ\$55 + postage

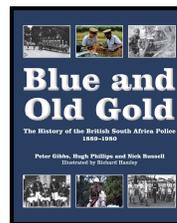
Regimental history books - more info and description on the website link above:-



**The Saints** – RLI with DVD NZ\$145  
NZ\$125 + postage



**Masodja** – RAR with DVD NZ\$145



**Blue & Old Gold** – BSAP

Please use the page link [www.rhodesianservices.org/Books.htm](http://www.rhodesianservices.org/Books.htm) to view our stock of excellent books.  
When buying for someone else you cannot beat a good book as a gift.



**The Rhodesia Regiment – Book Project**



Thank you for all the responses from the November edition of **Contact! Contact!** New material continues to arrive.

We will be closing off in a few months so it is imperative that if you have been preparing to send in any submissions that you do it by the end of February 2011. This is not very far away, as well I know when it comes to getting things done. PLEASE make an effort to get something to us – it does not have to be anything of great literacy – just notes even hand written and we will contact you to get the facts in better order if required.

We have made some headway with the illustration for the front cover. The cover will most likely be formed from a number of photos that we have. We are still looking for a particular type of photo to use centrally. The criteria are:

- A unique unpublished picture;
- Reasonable quality – colour would be best but not necessary
- Showing both black and white Rhodesia Regiment soldiers.

We have said it all before - we owe it to our forefathers, our mates and ourselves to do produce this book.

I have been involved with this project going back ten years or more now. The end is in sight. Please come on board – your contribution is essential – don't put it off any longer – write it down before you forget it, if not for your sake but for your children and grandchildren's.

Since last month we have a few new requests that we would like to clear up in addition to the list below:

- For the most part the order of unit colours was Black on top or to the left as viewed, red in the centre and green last. There is evidence on unit plaques, an old regimental tie and a flash that shows the colours reversed i.e. green first. Explanations, comments, recollections, photos etc most welcome please.
- Any Rhodesia Regiment involvement with the fuel depot fires and urban bombings of that period - 1979

## Regimental Roll of Honour 1898 - 1981

Our team compiling this history has been joined by Adrian Haggett and Gerry van Tonder who are assigned to assembling the first ever Rhodesia Regiment Roll of Honour covering the years 1898 – 1981. This is a huge task but one which already is achieving some wonderful results. The period 1966 – 1981 is already part of a project mentioned earlier in this publication. The period 1898 – 1966 is a lot harder to find records of so your input is most welcome. We require legible photos of memorials, headstones, Rolls of Honour, family records etc. In particular we are looking for:

- Any Boer War era records pertaining to any mention of Rhodesians.
- WWI era records pertaining to the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion Rhodesia Regiment who served in South West Africa
- Any WWII era records where the deceased is recorded as Rhodesia Regiment
- Any records from between the wars where soldiers may have been killed or died during training.

## List of information required

As we find out about information that we still require we will publish it in this newsletter, highlighting what is new as well as our existing older requests that are still outstanding. We would like help with the following:

- What can anyone recall of the sports facilities at Llewellyn and any sports teams based there?
- We believe that 1 Indep. Coy were involved in Op Cauldron 1968/69 – we need your input.
- Any RR involvement in any of the signature operations of the war, in particular cross border raids.
- Rhodesia Regiment soldiers who served as attachments to the SAS (they were not badged as SAS). We would like to get information from you regarding your uniform, in particular regarding what berets and badges you wore.
- As many individual contact records and recollections can be assembled
- Humorous anecdotes.
- History and training of the 4 RR Tracker Unit and reflections of any persons involved.
- Any post Independence stories that bear reporting on the ongoing life of the Regiment.
- The Battle of the Honde...any memories at all and technical data
- Any personal thoughts, reflections and ideas regarding:

Leadership;

The general role of the Regiment during the war;

How the Regiment was regarded by the regular units;

How the Regiment regarded the regular units;

Disparities in kit allocations;

Fireforce deployments;

How military commitments impacted private lives, business etc;

Any views on the stresses imposed on individual members of the Regiment during the war;

Post war stress issues and any reflections on life after the war;

- Intelligence Section of the Rhodesia Regiment during WWII. We have some interesting information that we want to follow up. We are looking for any family who had a member in the Regiment at this time who would have served in Rhodesia.
- In 1947 the Rhodesian Armoured Car Regiment was deployed to Northern Rhodesia in reaction to civil unrest on the Copperbelt mines - we need more information.
- Coronation of Queen Elizabeth in 1953. We would like more and in particular are looking for anecdotes pertaining to members of the Rhodesia Regiment who were there.
- Nyasaland Emergency in 1959. In particular if anyone has information on Colonel Ken Harvey ICD, DSO, MBE, ED who was a Major in command of the Royal Rhodesia Regiment and on Operation 'Wet Dawn'
- Northern Rhodesia during the 1960 Congo Crisis.
- Technical unit structure etc. from the period 1950 – 1960
- 1964 Riots – we need anecdotes and information from those deployed in support of the BSAP during this period.
- Information on deployments during the early stages when infiltrators came across the Zambezi resulting in Operations Pagoda I and Pagoda II
- Individual recollections relating to the following operations in 1968/69 - Nickel, Breeze, Cauldron, Cosmic, Griffin, Mansion and Gravel
- Individual recollections of the beginning of Operation Hurricane in 1972.
- Individual recollections of deployments in Mozambique prior to that country's independence.
- Depot Rhodesia Regiment - information on the technical background to the training, the organisation and the structure of the DRR.
- Were any elements of the Regiment involved with Operation Mardon which was a series of co-ordinated attacks on bases inside Mozambique between 20<sup>th</sup> October and 2<sup>nd</sup> November 1976?
- Comments and reflections on the Indefinite Call Up period.
- Comments, reflections and strategies on general patrolling, OP, ambush and garrison duties
- Were any Rhodesia Regiment personnel part of the first response to the Viscount Disasters?
- The occupation of Mapai took place during Op Aztec in May/June 1977. I believe that elements of 2RR were involved. Please contact us if you were involved.

- We believe that elements of 10RR were involved in 'Operation Favour' post the elections that saw Muzorewa come to power in 1979. A number of Sithole's 'Auxiliaries' were contacted and killed near Gokwe.
- Were any elements of the Rhodesia Regiment used in support of Operation Bastille in 1979 (the raid on Nkomo's house by the SAS) back in Rhodesia.
- Were any elements of the Regiment used in support of Operation Uric September 1979 when Mapai was occupied
- Recollection from deployments during the cease fire and 1980 election and the period after that.
- Rhodesia Regiment Dress Regulations.

You do not have to present your information in a well written format - we will sort that out. I can do recorded verbal interviews over Skype if necessary.

Photos in 300DPI please. If you do not understand scanning – we can help, alternatively you can send the photos to us and they will be returned. All input will be acknowledged.

Material can be sent to:

- Hugh Bomford [hbomford@clear.net.nz](mailto:hbomford@clear.net.nz)
- Chris Cocks [info@30degreessouth.co.za](mailto:info@30degreessouth.co.za)

**Don't live to regret not doing something now!**

## **The Global Forked Stick – Snippets and Requests**

### **Full Circle - A District Commissioner in Rhodesia 1972 - 1981 by Pat Rundgren**

Review by Lewis Walter

"INTAF" - as the Ministry of Internal Affairs was generally known - was traditionally responsible for an extremely wide range of functions in both rural and urban areas. When Pat Rundgren joined the Ministry in 1972, INTAF was in the process of taking on another and more vital function - that of a para-military organisation.

Pat has written a remarkable and very personal account of this process, from his early years through to the eventual bloody conflict when the men of INTAF, with inadequate manpower, weaponry or recognition, were frequently the sole line of defence in the tribal areas of Rhodesia. Only too often the regular security forces were unable to provide back-up. Young National Servicemen, later supported by Vedettes, found themselves in charge of fortified bases, patrolling in areas where terrorists had almost free range. Intaf staff had in addition to carry out the Ministry's normal administrative functions - a fact which was generally neither understood nor fully appreciated by the regular security forces (and, one suspects, by the controlling powers in Salisbury). Casualties were heavy.

The calls of guinea fowl and night jars, the smell of Delnav cattle dip, coffee and early-morning mists, place-names such as Sewale, Sipepa, Ningombeneshango and others from the tribal areas of Tjolotjo, Lupane and Nkai, are called forth with crystal clarity. All will bring back memories, some happy, others perhaps not so, to those of us who had the privilege of serving in those districts.

"Full Circle" presents a deep and thoughtful insight into the operations of INTAF during Rhodesia's Bush War, and the calibre of its men and women. It is written with humour, but this does not disguise the difficult conditions under which its members operated. It is a valuable contribution to the history of Rhodesia, and aspects of a district administration which had its origins in the aftermath of the Matabele War of 1893.

"Full Circle" is obtainable from Lighthouse Publishing, PO Box 1726, Dundee 3000, South Africa or e-mail [gunners@trustnet.co.za](mailto:gunners@trustnet.co.za) at R290 (hard cover) plus postage and packing.

### **RLI 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebrations 1961-2011 - Warning Order**

The UK Branch 50th Anniversary Weekend takes place over the weekend of Fri 23<sup>rd</sup>, Sat 24<sup>th</sup>, Sun 25<sup>th</sup> September 2011. For all details and bookings email Martyn Hudson [Martyn.hudson2@btinternet.com](mailto:Martyn.hudson2@btinternet.com)

### **ORAFS gather in Auckland, New Zealand**

Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> November saw yet another get-together of ORAFS in Auckland. Attendees were, in no particular order: Bob and Jann Hattle, Blake and Jane Few, John and Moya Michalakakis, Pete and Viv Jameson, Ashley and Helen Stober, Dennis and Patricia Mawhinney, John and Bernie Pringle.

The weather prophet forecast rain however we invoked the spirit of Harvey Quail and once again the morning cloud dispersed and we enjoyed a fine, sunny day.

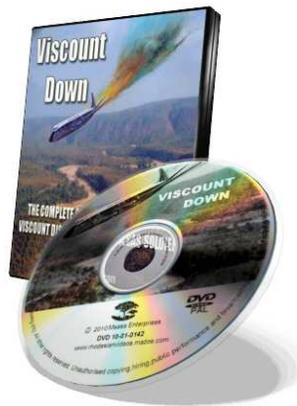
Plenty of beer disappeared, bags of steak and woks was cremated and many dubious stories were told. The venue, once again, was "The Command Post", an historic piece of Auckland's WWII defence installation. For something different we took thirty minutes out of drinking time and toured the recently re-opened tunnel complex between the gun emplacements.

Tour guide was John Pringle who notes that if anyone is interested in local military history, the Mairangi Bay restoration is a particularly fine example of a WWII defensive installation that was disguised to look like a coastal housing complex. John is part of a group of volunteers who are restoring the complex as an historic and educational centre. Please contact John on email [pringlejp@xtra.co.nz](mailto:pringlejp@xtra.co.nz) if you would like more information, a look around or even to get involved.

### **New Zealand Mounted Troops Assn.**

Rhodesians who served in units utilizing armoured fighting vehicles/armoured cars are welcome to contact New Zealand Mounted Troops Assn. committee member Steve Taite email [tait@inspire.net.nz](mailto:tait@inspire.net.nz) regarding membership. Steve says "If you have any ex armoured members that might be interested in talking s..t over a beer with like minded kiwis they would be welcomed."

### **Viscount Down – the DVD**



Keith Nel writes:

*"The filmmaker phoned me last week, very excited. You have got to see this DVD right now - he claimed! It is so powerful that you will watch it over and over again. He was 100% right. I looked in total awe at the scenes with goose bumps and shivers travelling rapidly up and down from head to toe. Another filmmaker from the United States who has made thirty seven movies also watched. Accustomed and used to high drama, he sat riveted to his chair watching, and at the end with moist eyes and almost speechless, he could scarcely croak out the words – "We never knew".*

*It is well balanced with an excellent narrative together with footage and photographs not previously released. There is much to see in this sixty minute DVD. Starting with the savage and brutal occupation of traditional Shona territory near Kariba by Joshua Nkomo's terrorist forces, the drama unfolds with a new development in the war - the arrival of terrorist forces to bring down civilian aircraft with SAM 7 heat seeking missiles. Viewers are shown the scene of devastation that occurred on the 3<sup>rd</sup> September 1978 when Nkomo's ZIPRA terrorists brought down the Vickers Viscount passenger aircraft Hunyani, resulting in the deaths of fifty six holiday makers and crew. Watch live interviews with three survivors who managed to hide nearby, while ten crash site survivors, mostly women and children, were shot and bayoneted to death by a second gang of terrorists. Also not to be missed is the interview with a SAS operator who was among the first from the search and rescue team to parachute into the crash site.*

*Although it was plain to see that the missile attacks on civilian airliners and brutal murders of survivors was not the work of freedom fighters but of hard-core Marxist Leninist terrorists, the audience can see Joshua Nkomo laughing over the Hunyani disaster and supporting his men who claimed responsibility in an interview with the BBC. We all know how much it hurt when world leaders remained silent without a word of condemnation - and that today still, the Rhodesian Viscount disasters are little known about. It is not just our duty to change this state of affairs but also our privilege to do so.*

*The names of all 107 victims who were killed in these disasters are published on this DVD and in the forthcoming book 'Viscount Down' as a permanent historical record. It is hoped that the DVD will occupy a special place in the homes of all Rhodesians to support the cause that these attacks should become known worldwide for being Rhodesia's 9/11 and the first time two passenger planes were destroyed by terrorist elements to effect terror on a nation. It also serves as a reminder that such actions tolerated by the world at large, had much to do with the beginning of terrorist tactics that progressively grew into a form of warfare culminating in America's 9/11.*

*The DVD will be released on 16<sup>th</sup> December 2010. The DVD as well as limited edition copies of the book can be ordered and paid for via the Viscount website [www.viscountdown.com](http://www.viscountdown.com) - early bookings are advised."*

### **Roan Antelope Music**

Dear Friends, Rhodies and Countrymen!

Roan Antelope Music are moving with the new media age. You can now visit our web site [www.johnedmond.co.za](http://www.johnedmond.co.za) and download your favourite track of Rhodie Music. So if you just want the song 'Christmas In Rhodesia' this is the way to go. Click on "Rhythm Music Store" and start downloading. Please let us know what you think. Try it and enjoy.

All of us at Roan Antelope trust that 2010 was good for you all, albeit that it was a hard year financially throughout the world, except for the soccer world cup fans that celebrated ayoba and followed their teams in South Africa.

Our wish is for you and yours to close 2010's chapter, whichever way the wind blew, with a blessed Christmas season and to open a new page for 2011 full of blessings.

Once again our thanks for your support through thick and thin. The emails and tit bits of news from time to time, your parties, get-togethers and celebrations playing John's music!

This year two Rhodie shows took place, one at Kunkuru and one in Las Vegas USA. What a blast both shows were with regulars attending and plenty of new faces and friends. In January air tickets arrived with the invite to entertain the Rhodies in the USA. So many people came and made such an effort to attend. Folks from UK, Australia and even Fort Victoria in Zimbabwe. In Las Vegas we were fortunate to meet Walter and Sandy Briggs, Americans who came all the way from Missoula in Montana to experience Rhodesian hospitality and hear John play! Well they are now our latest newly inaugurated American Rhodies! So the family is growing.

John and Teresa were welcomed with open arms by the American Rhodies celebrating their 30<sup>th</sup> reunion. The US has changed but the Rhodies not and still going strong. The Edmonds were toured, wined and dined by Paul Mroz and his lovely fiancé Belinda through five States, John was very inspired so watch this space if we can have songs like "Braai in the Middle of England" heaven knows what could come out of Colorado, New Mexico, Arizona, Texas and Nevada!

On the release side only one new CD was released – "That's what I Call a Love Song". Hopefully this album will help promote love and peace throughout the world which is also our Christmas wish for you.

Our Christmas prayer for you all is; "Lord, let all who earnestly look for You, find You this Christmas".

Our Christmas special for December will be 10% off any product in our catalogue and a FREE "That's What I Call a Love Song" CD with any order of three and more CD's.

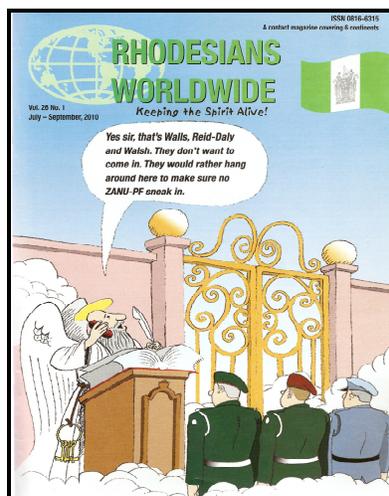
Make your festive season a season filled with love, music and memories. See our web site; [www.johnedmond.co.za](http://www.johnedmond.co.za) or send your order to [info@johnedmond.co.za](mailto:info@johnedmond.co.za) or phone +27 (0) 71 699 0362 to place your order.

So from the hot and green bushveld, the Roan Antelope Team wishes you unending peace, love and sunshine.

John, Teresa and Annamarie.

### Rhodesians World Wide

Subscribe now to get this long standing printed magazine. This wonderful production was circling the globe and informing Rhodesians long before the internet. Annual subscriptions are very reasonable and make a great gift to someone. At US\$20, NZ\$34, A\$30, RSA R80, UK£12 CA\$26 you cannot go wrong. Email Chris Whitehead at [Rhodesia@rhodesia.org](mailto:Rhodesia@rhodesia.org) for further details or write to PO Box 22034 Mesa, Arizona 85277-2034, USA.



Rhodesians World Wide – Keeping the Spirit Alive Vol 26 No 1

## NZSAS Soldier's comments on Rhodesia

Bruce John writes:

*"The other day we invited an ex NZSAS soldier, who had been in the SAS for some 25 years, to come and give a talk to our 6<sup>th</sup> Form History boys at Auckland Grammar School. His talk was particularly on NZ's involvement in Vietnam, but he also mentioned that he had been in Rhodesia with the Commonwealth Monitoring Force.*

*I asked him to tell me more on his time in Rhodesia. He said that of all the countries in the world that he had visited during his service, and there were many, it was the most beautiful country he had been to. In fact he went so far as to say he would even have enjoyed taking his wife to see it! He had also been very impressed with the professionalism of the Rhodesian Security Forces, despite the conditions they were having to operate under. He couldn't remember precisely where he was stationed, but it seemed to me from what he described, he was stationed somewhere near Plumtree."*

## Another act of piracy

Pirates attacked a South African yacht off the Seychelles on October 26<sup>th</sup>, taking three hostages. The skipper, Peter Eldridge, escaped but two South African nationals remain in the hands of pirates.

Peter Eldridge, former CSM of 3 Commando RLI, stated *"It was a scary experience. They beat me and threatened us with guns. I refused to leave the yacht and I was prepared to sink with the pirates."* - KZN Independent Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> November 2010

Until next time - go well.  
Cheers Hugh



## Celebrate 'Rhodesia Day'\* on the 11<sup>th</sup> November each year.

\*The concept of 'Rhodesia Day' was brought to my attention by Eddy Norris and family. During the 90 year life of Rhodesia we experienced the best of times and the worst of times. I encourage everyone to use this day to remember the good times and to spend time remembering those who are no longer with us.

You can make a donation to the Rhodesian Services Association by clicking on our 'Collection Hat' below which is a typical slouch hat of the type used by the Rhodesian Army up until the 1960's. Click on the hat (or this link [https://www.paypal.com/cgi-bin/webscr?cmd=s-xclick&hosted\\_button\\_id=MLMB2B8Y2UY3G](https://www.paypal.com/cgi-bin/webscr?cmd=s-xclick&hosted_button_id=MLMB2B8Y2UY3G)) and if you are registered with PayPal the process will be immediate. If you are not a PayPal member you will be given instruction on how to make a credit card payment via PayPal. Thank you - every bit helps.



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

This newsletter is being sent to registered subscribers. To unsubscribe press this link [UNSUBSCRIBE](#) and send the email.