



## **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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## **July 2008 Newsletter**

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

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

Greetings

Firstly, my apologies for an omission from the last newsletter. In addition to the ANZAC Day piece on Alan Dempsey I should have included his contact details. He is the Welfare Officer for the Paraparaumu Returned Services Association and he wanted it known that any Rhodesian Veteran visitors or members in the area will be made most welcome. Please contact Alan directly:

Alan Dempsey  
Welfare Officer  
Paraparaumu RSA  
P.O. Box 170  
Paraparaumu  
110 Amohia Street.  
Phone 04 902 7927  
Fax 04 902 7928

Next apology is that last month when I sent this newsletter out there was an ongoing problem with my Internet Service Provider (ISP). Some newsletters were not delivered and some addressees reported being bombarded with four or more copies of the newsletter. Sorry for any inconvenience, but it was a case of "matters beyond my control".

This newsletter now goes out to nearly 800 addresses. I know that a number of those addresses do not actually receive it as it is put into their spam folder by their ISP, or for some reason my main email address has ended up on their banned list. I cannot always know what happens once I send off each batch of newsletters and some people may have banned me deliberately anyway!

When I send off the newsletters they go out as a 'blind carbon copy' (BCC). This is so that every recipient's address is hidden. They are sent off in batches of 50 addresses in each address group, as more than that upsets the ISPs. Unfortunately, this is also how spammers send their garbage out and so systems are set up to skim off the spam emails and sometimes this newsletter also ends up in the bin.

I am suitably ticked off when errors occur or when mail is not delivered, given the time and effort that goes into each newsletter (and not only my time is wasted). I like to get things right the first time and only want to do things once.

Quite frankly I do not know the answer to avoiding the spam catcher's net. I believe that I am sending out something of quality that has been requested by the receiving address. People can opt out and that instruction is carried at the bottom of every newsletter. I have done a bit of research and believe that I need to have a better program to convert a document to HTML. Currently I write it on MS Word and convert it on Word. I understand that using MS Word to convert does not make a 'clean' document and is therefore more likely to be regarded as spam. If anyone has any suggestions I would like to hear from them.

This newsletter is being sent out from a different address. You can reply to me on this address or on my usual one [hbomford@clear.net.nz](mailto:hbomford@clear.net.nz)

Don't forget folks, I am always looking for articles so if you have something that you think would be of interest, please send it in.

## Obituaries

The Selous Scout Association reported that **Vancy Meyers** (pictured below) died on the 25<sup>th</sup> June 2008 after a struggle with cancer. Vancy was one of the more prominent members of the Selous Scouts and was also ex-RLI.



**Vancy Meyers**

Extract from ORAFS, Tony Cowell writes:

*"**Dave Edgecumbe** passed away at 19h10 this evening, 14<sup>th</sup> June, 2008, after a long battle with cancer, bravely borne, in Cape Town, South Africa.*

*Dick Randal was with him, his wife Jacky and the family, and asked me to let you know. Such a young and super guy.*

*Insert by ORAFs:*

*Despite not being Air Force, Dave did support the Cape Air Forces' Association when his health permitted, attending the monthly socials. ORAFs stands to be corrected, but he is believed to have served in the RLI. Deepest sympathies to Jacky and family. Dick and Caretha, we know you were big pals with Dave, we are thinking of you as well. Be assured Dave was a good guy - he will be missed."*

Rosemary Snook wrote to say that her very best friend, lover and companion, **Garth Snook**, died at 3.55am on the 16<sup>th</sup> June 2008 in South Africa.

**Jon Stokes** died peacefully in the early hours of the 9<sup>th</sup> June 2008.

## Rhodesian Services Association Incorporated

You will note some changes to the header at the top of this page. From the 3<sup>rd</sup> of June we were approved as a registered charity in New Zealand.

In 2005 the committee agreed that we should work towards becoming a registered charity under the new legislation being introduced in New Zealand. This legislation was put in place to properly record and register all charities. The process was a lengthy one for us and began with our becoming an Incorporated Society.

Becoming a registered charity is actually quite a big deal for us. We are now officially recognised as a body, and in terms of our aims and objectives. To be a charity you have to be able to demonstrate charitable purpose in at least one of four criteria. The definitions of charitable purpose under New Zealand law are given as: relating to the relief of poverty; the advancement of education or religion; or any other matter beneficial to the community. We satisfied two of these criteria: advancement of education and being beneficial to the community.

From my view this means that we are not some 'club of foreigners' but that our association is recognised as part of main stream New Zealand. It affords us public confidence. It gives us a far stronger position if we are to apply for any funding for our museum projects. We are now part of a searchable registry for anyone looking to contribute to a charity. Donors can claim tax relief for that sum donated. The association is in a position to apply for tax exemption.

## The Troopie Statue and Re-Dedication

From the generous contributions that were made in New Zealand we were able to send £314.08 to the RLI Association. A list of donors accompanied the cheque and this was the response:

*"Hi Hugh On behalf of the Rhodesian Light Infantry Association I would like to thank all the contributors and the Rhodesian Services Association for your most generous donation.*

*The project is well and truly on its way and as you can imagine the bills are beginning to roll in, the most important part has been getting the new plinth made and I cannot wait to see it all put together at Hatfield House. It is due to*

be placed in the grounds mid July allowing the ground plenty of time to settle before the rededication service in September.

Once again a very big "thank you" to you all.

Martyn Hudson  
Chairman RLIRA UK Branch  
CEO World Wide"

A more recent update from Martyn states:

"Firstly an update on the progress of our plans for the weekend of 27<sup>th</sup>/ 28<sup>th</sup> September, 2008, our Re-dedication Service/Relocation of the Trooper Statue and the Laying up of our Queen's Colours at Hatfield House, Hatfield, by kind permission of Lord Salisbury.

The Trooper Statue Appeal has gone very well and people have been very generous. The Statue is almost ready to take up residence at Hatfield House as he has been repaired over the last few months, with not a few hiccups, and at long last is almost ready for his final journey. However, please carry on sending your donations as every penny counts and there are always unexpected bills.

The Queen's Colours have been encased and hermetically sealed in glass and gold cases ready to take their place in the Family Chapel at Hatfield House and look magnificent. I delivered them there when I paid a visit on 6th June. I also took our Padre, Rev. Clive Larrett and his organist who will be playing at the Re-dedication Service in the Armoury/Chapel at Hatfield House to practise on the beautiful 17th century organ, which still sounds perfect, so they could run through the music for the Service and, of course, the Order of Service.

Ticket sales for the weekend are over a hundred now and as we only have 220 available I would advise you to book your tickets now. The last day that I can take a post-dated cheque is 31<sup>st</sup> July. To book accommodation please go on the website [www.therli.com](http://www.therli.com) and click on the statue on the bottom right hand corner which will bring up the menu on the left hand side and all the details are listed.

Other contacts for bookings and information:

Gerry Doyle email [james273@btinternet.com](mailto:james273@btinternet.com)

Mike Addison email [killednaction@hotmail.com](mailto:killednaction@hotmail.com) or Tel: 01424 850102 Mobile 07885227248"

### **Cuthbert's Diary, June 1936 'Lost and Found at Gwelo'**

The following article is extracted from The Southern Rhodesia Territorial Force Journal 1936. This journal is on loan from Brig. David Heppenstall to me for the purpose of research for the Rhodesia Regiment book. When I saw this piece it amused me and I thought that I should share it with you.

Saturday, June 13<sup>th</sup>:

Spent most of the afternoon getting packed. Feel rather elated. Have never been to camp before and after seeing snaps of Governor-General's camp down Zimbabwe way am rather looking forward to a jolly time. Understand we are all being made hon.-members of all sports clubs at Gwelo. Can't decide whether to take ping pong bat or tennis racquet. Think I'll take racquet. All my kit looks very business-like. Mother has given a good deal of time to it. Glad Auntie sent those iodine socks. Have had to cut them down a bit to get them inside my stockings. Found the kit bag issued rather a troublesome affair to pack decently. It just bulges all over the place. I hope the baggage people will handle it carefully. My web equipment wasn't half the problem I expected. Got it together quite easily. There seems to be a strap or two over. Must remember to bring them along in case somebody else is short. Put my haversack in my kit bag. There seemed to be no place for it on the equipment.

Later:

Proceeded to Drill Hall at 7.30 p.m. Sixpence carried my attaché case and tennis racquet. Put kit bag on pile, but couldn't find Sixpence anywhere. Had to fall in before I could locate him. Our sergeant rather worried. Called my name three or four times before I realised he meant me. Some coarse fellow in the rear rank drew my attention to the fact in a rather unseemly manner. Sergeant also unreasonably annoyed at the mischance. Marched off to the skirling of pipes about 8 p.m. What a difference music makes! The equipment seemed as light as a feather till the band stopped playing just past the Library, and then the weight began to tell. Saw Sixpence as we marched into the station. Was marching to attention so couldn't do anything about it. Rather hoped to get a coupé but nothing reserved. Astonished to find we are expected to travel 2nd class. No cards on windows and no places allocated. Not a very promising beginning. The officers sent somebody on ahead and have kept the few 1st class compartments for themselves. Rather an unfair advantage to take of one's rank, I think. They wouldn't let Sixpence on the station. I tried to get to the window to get a message to him but the only vacant ones were on the wrong side of the train.

Sunday, 14<sup>th</sup>:

Had rather a miserable journey down to Gwelo. Got there very early on Sunday morning. Camp looked rather neat and jolly. Hope I get an end tent; there's so much more privacy.

Later:

I have got an end tent. Gather there must be a shortage (possibly due to Europe arming). They have put six other fellows in my tent. Must make inquiries and report this. After all, even a Rifleman has some rights. Went along to enquire about beds and mattresses. Very gentlemanly fellow in the stores tent advised me they were expected any minute. He recorded my name in his book and told me to report hourly. Seem to be very popular with my tent mates. They have unanimously elected me orderly. Lunch was obviously rather a scratch affair. We had sausage and mash. I usually get indigestion after eating sausages. Reported to hospital marquee and asked orderly to give me a couple of soda mints. He gave me two little capsules which he said were much better. Seemed a very motherly soul.

Later:

With all his kindness I think that orderly must have made a mistake. Suppose I must be thankful I haven't indigestion as well. Went on guard. Think the quartermaster fellow had something to do with it. The sergeant came and enquired who had been reporting hourly for beds and mattresses. I told him I had, so he said it would save a lot of trouble if I went on guard, where I could keep a sharp look out for their arrival. I was on duty from 8 to 10. Some young ladies came along about 9 p.m. I gathered they had taken the wrong turning. The Corporal said he would show them. I stayed on guard till midnight at the request of the other fellows.

Monday, 15<sup>th</sup>:

An officer passed just after I went on guard at 8 this morning. I raised my helmet but he took no notice. He was probably one of the Staff officers. It seemed rather rude to me. Came off guard at 5 p.m. Went along to find the bathroom but failed to locate it. Had a wash instead. On return to tent found a violent argument going on about the golf course. One fellow was so certain that he was right that he borrowed ten shillings off me to make some sort of bet I fancy. Argument was resumed again after dinner. Finally those concerned decided to go to the golf course and settle the point. They were away some time, but seemed they met quite a lot of people out there.

Tuesday, 16<sup>th</sup>:

Have had little time to write all day. There was P.T. and B.F from 6.30 to 7. The P.T. and B.F. were very hard. The Permanent Staff Johnny made it fairly clear that he was doing the P.T. part and we the B.F. Breakfast a little better. Possibly I was rather peckish. Eggs were boiled too long and no cornflakes or rice crispies. A mild and kindly-looking officer enquired if everything was all right. Told him about the eggs. He was not so mild as he looked. After breakfast we practised saluting for about an hour. Felt rather guilty about raising my helmet yesterday. Missed lunch. Went for a stroll on the golf course instead. Saw nothing to occasion all the argument of yesterday.

Wednesday, 17<sup>th</sup>:

Kept fairly busy all day. Little time to write. Staff gave a guard-mounting demonstration. Not very good. Officer made them do it again. Much better second time. Thought I'd go to concert but am writing instead. From what I hear, the concert's not quite my type. Night Ops rather boring. Bed early.

Thursday, 18<sup>th</sup>:

Had a bit of a difference with rather objectionable fellow in tent. Called me a Cissie. Thought of Miss de B. and saw red. Bit of a mix up. Remembered film "Strike me Pink; Man or Mouse?" Flung him out of tent. Refused to be orderly any longer. Went straight off to concert. Had light refreshment at interval. Think it was beer shandy. Enjoyed it. Second half of concert went well. Rather like that fellow Bull. Some good stories and cheery songs.

Friday, 19<sup>th</sup>:

This diary getting boring. Got letter from Mother. She still seems to think I'm a kid at school. Did V.T and J.D. most of the day. Waste of time, I thought. Suppose Instructors must justify their existence! B.E.S.L. concert at night. Bit snappy in places. Must try and remember that story about Mae West.

Saturday, 20<sup>th</sup>:

Went out on scheme to-day. Deuce of a sweat. Several fellows with sore feet. Mine O.K. What a mob to go to war with!

Sunday, 21<sup>st</sup>:

Church parade and inspection. Rather a fag and a lot of silly dressing of mugs and blankets. Would like to meet the bird who invented inspection. Silly ass!

Monday, 22<sup>nd</sup>:

Just returned from the final battle. Everybody was out on it. They seem to have queer ideas about the use of mechanical transport. I always thought it should be used to take you where you had to get as quickly as possible. Speed and surprise ought to be the main idea. We were taken miles away from where we wanted to go and then had to march back there! Perhaps it was to train the young officers. Lord knows who won. Who cares anyhow? Camp's over except for King's Birthday Parade to-morrow. That's the stuff to give 'em.

**The October RV – Tauranga 24<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup> October 2008**

The next public holiday in New Zealand is Labour Weekend and this is the weekend that we hold the RV in Tauranga. So there is no time like the present to start making your plans and booking accommodation because, as we have found in the past, motels soon get booked out on that weekend and people are advised to book well in advance.

The basic plan for the weekend is along similar lines as in the past:

Friday 24th - food and 'movies' at the Garrison Club from 4.30pm, 'movies' start 7pm.

Saturday 25th - golf in the morning, RV includes braai and auction in the afternoon and evening Sunday 26th - breakfast and De-brief (AGM) at the Classic Flyers Museum.

Tickets will go on sale in August.

## **ANZAC DAY 25<sup>th</sup> April 2008**

The following report on the RLI Assn's reunion which coincided with ANZAC weekend in Brisbane is reproduced for you here by kind permission of the author of the article, Brigadier 'Digger' Essex-Clark:

### ***Your Patron's Impressions of the Brisbane 2008 Reunion***

*These are my unofficial 'impressions' as a 'thank you' to all who attended the RLIRA Australasia Branch Anzac Day Reunion and March in Brisbane in 2008.*

*The Rhodesian Light Infantry Regimental Association (RLIRA) Australasian Branch annual Anzac Day Reunion was held in Brisbane, Queensland, over the period 24 - 25 April 2008. Over forty of us well retired but still vigorous Saints and our ladies, plus some of our children and relatives, as well as some parents, travelled from all over Australia to Brisbane for this reunion.*

*The reunion started with pre-dinner drinks, followed by dinner at the posh Stamford Hotel, Brisbane on 24th April, where many of us were staying. Those attending the dinner were grouped at Commando tables, with the top table consisting of the reunion chaplain, the Right Rev Nicolas Jackson, plus four 'Original Saints' ('The Incurrigibles') - consisting of Lew Lloyd-Evans, Miles MacDonald, Alan Lucy, and me (all A Company) and Michael Buchanan (D Company); with our ladies, Anne, Carole, Margaret, Brenda, Susan, and Kate, respectively. I nicknamed the original members, whom I took to the Congo in 1961: 'The Incurrigibles'. The members at the top table were also privileged to have behind them, the splendidly mounted and displayed un-consecrated (post UDI) Presidential Colours, which Shaun and Annette Ryan had gallantly and awkwardly brought over from the United Kingdom in a ski bag.*



**Above photo of four of the original RLI Saints - 'The Incurrigibles' after breakfast; standing right 'Incurrigible' bearded Alan Lucy, with left; later 'Incredible Saints' John Costopoulos, then Andrew Gibson BCR; seated left, 'Incurrigible' Lew Lloyd-Evans, then 'Digger' Essex-Clark, and bearded Miles MacDonald.**

*We were welcomed to the dinner by Jack Lamont, and a moving address was given by Marshall Ross. We toasted "The Regiment", and "Rhodesia" and a splendid buffet dinner was enjoyed by all.*

*The next beautiful morning, at 0545 hrs or 'first light' or more colloquially, 'sparrow fart' we held an emotionally moving Anzac Day Dawn Service, on the bank of the Brisbane River in the City Botanic Gardens. With our Colours proudly displayed the Right Reverend Nicolas Jackson conducted the service. Vince Zorocic read Psalm 23 and we all responded, after which we sang the Rhodesian National Anthem; I recited the Ode of Remembrance, and then we closed on the river's edge and I cast onto the river the splendid popped wreath to represent the loss of RLI ouens and Rhodesia "To Old Rhodesia and the RLI". This was followed immediately by many casting, individually,*

*poppies representing their loved ones and friends of those who died as a result of war. These poppies then settled by the wreath as it floated slowly downstream to represent all we have lost. This casting of our past was accompanied by Tony Young playing sad pipe music (Thug Me Goal) and then, slightly more brightly but slowly, our Regimental March, 'The Saints'.*



**Photo above on the steps down to the river after the Dawn Service.**

*After the service, we returned to the hotel for breakfast where Tony Young had organised the Rhodesian Republican Flag to fly proudly on the cross-tee of a flagpole that had the Australian National Flag at the masthead, it looked splendid.*

*Later that perfect morning, we formed up in Brisbane in our RLI blazers, badged berets, and glittering medals, and after a long wait, marched smartly and proudly in the massive and long-columned Memorial March through the centre of Brisbane. My most vivid memories are of the precision of our drill movements, and the palpable pride of all of us marching in step to the much needed cadence call of step because there were far too many pipe and bugle bands thumping discordantly and confusingly ahead and behind us. I was also very proud to have two of my granddaughters marching with us.*



**Photo above on the march From left: Quentin Fourie; Vince Zorocic with Presidential Colour; Jimmy Swan; Digger E-C (shouting "eyes left"); Wesley Cauvin, with sign; Miles MacDonald (with Regimental Colour, Marshall Ross.**

*All in all, I was overwhelmed by the sheer enthusiasm, dedication, spirited drill movements, and well-merited pride of all within our contingent.*

*On the matter of wearing medals, particularly those of our forebears on our right chest, Lew Lloyd-Evans, who came with his family from South Africa, wore his forebears' medals going back, incredibly, to the 1879 Zulu, or Kaffrarian Wars.*

*The Presidential Colours had already added much lustre and pride to our reunion dinner and Anzac Day Dawn Service. Now they became our symbol of our pride and Rhodesian service as we marched through the centre of the City. We marched six abreast and the six-deep column indicated that there must have been about 40 plus marching, including my two adult granddaughters, Belinda and Amanda, representing the families of those of our Australasia Branch who have died since its formation.*



**Photo above of Mandy and Belinda (my granddaughters) with RLI Colours.**

*Once again, I believe that, as in Sydney last year, our march together as a team, and ebullient crowd support, gave us all a strong sense of acceptance and welcome from the people of Australia, and a clear recognition of the value of our past endeavours as Rhodesians. Though we marched with Section 'F' of the march, as 'Allied Forces', we were still placed ahead of the United States of America but, naturally, behind those representatives of the United Kingdom, a clear statement that we had fought alongside Australian Forces in the Boer War, the First and Second World Wars and in Malaya. In fact 'Rhodesia', but not Zimbabwe, is still recognized by the Returned Services League of Australia (which organises the marches in each capital city) as an allied nation and once member of the Commonwealth of Nations.*

*The Governor of Queensland, and the next to be Governor-General of Australia, Ms Quentin Bryce, took the salute as we gave her a very smart 'eyes left' and unfurled and dipped the Presidential Colours, carried gallantly by Miles MacDonald, an 'Original-Incorrigible-Saint' and Vince Zorocic, our branch secretary, a younger and final 'Incredible-Saint' whose proud father was watching the march.*



**Photo above of the front rank and Colours.**

*Major General Dick Wilson, Commander of the 1st Australian Division and the Australian Joint Deployable Force, who was taking the salute with Quentin Bryce, saluted as soon as he saw our Colours dipped. He later commented about our smart dress, drill, and impressive presentation, and the brilliance of our Colours. Many others have since commented that, apart from some of the many Australian Regular Army Infantry Units marching on the parade, we were 'second to none'! This became obvious to us all as the clapping and shouting surged louder and louder as we approached and marched past elements of the huge crowd (estimated as the largest ever to attend the Anzac Day march in Brisbane) that lined the whole three kilometre route from assembly area to dispersal point. Some sudden whoops and joyous shouts from the crowd indicated that there must have been the odd pocket of ecstatic Rhodesian spectators. The march, however, due to stoppages from collapsing old soldiers and some spectators, and halts for their medical attention, and the typically late arrival of the Royal Australian Navy band, took three and a half long standing-and-marching hours.*

After the march, we assembled with our families in a small reserved area at the Port Office Hotel for some much needed refreshments and a snack lunch where, again, many memories of past warriors and other events past were recalled and enjoyed.

It has been reported that some 250,000 came out onto the streets of Brisbane to watch the march and well over two million are estimated to have watched it on television.

The reunion dinner, Dawn Service and march combined was a grand occasion that reignited our pride in our service for Rhodesia and, particularly, our time spent creating and experiencing the eternal bonds of comradeship and the excellence of professional soldiers within the magnificent Rhodesian Light Infantry - 'The Incredibles'.

The reunion, as a whole, and especially the march, also enabled our families to see our pride, the worthiness and strength of our RLI bonding, and the importance and respect that Australia gives to those who have served well as soldiers, sailors, or airmen. One ex Rhodesian Air Force man identified himself to me at our Dawn Service, but I saw none with us or with the other Rhodesian group at the march.

It was an indelibly memorable and emotionally rewarding two days for all of us that gathered in Brisbane for our RLIRA Reunion. Our Branch President, Tony Young and the Queensland Chapter principals, Marshall Ross and Jack Lamont, must be congratulated and thanked for their organisational skills and dedication. There are, of course, many others who deserve special and warm thanks for their efforts, but I must mention Shaun and Annette Ryan for bringing out and returning our Colours in a most awkward ski bag; Lew and Carole Lloyd-Evans for journeying from South Africa with their son Darren; and Margaret and Miles MacDonald for organizing the Dawn Service. I must also thank Tony and Jean Young, once again, for their masterminding and constant guidance to all involved in the reunion. I also thank the primary organisers of the event, the Queensland Chapter, Marshall Ross and Jack Lamont and their supportive ladies, Yvonne and Jennine, respectively. We were also graced to have with us Andrew Gibson, once of 3 Commando, a Bronze Cross of Rhodesia winner.

It was a memorable and heartening two days, especially meeting so many old friends and I look forward to seeing all of you again in Perth next year!

I wish all of you and your loved ones a most healthy and fortunate twelve months in the meantime. We will all have to save up for that grand occasion, with our brother ouens from West Australia.

**"The Saints go marching on"**

Digger Essex-Clark

Patron of The Rhodesian Light Infantry Regimental Association

30th April 2008

## 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.

I will soon be stocking a number of Paladin Press titles including 'The Bush War In Rhodesia' by Dennis Croukamp (previously published as 'Only My Friends Call Me "Crouks"') and 'Tactical Tracking Operations – The Essential Guide for Military and Police Trackers' by David Scott-Donelan. Stocks should be in New Zealand around the 20<sup>th</sup> July. Your order is welcome. Email me at [hbomford@clear.net.nz](mailto:hbomford@clear.net.nz)

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

We are currently working on a few new products which we will tell you about in due course. In the mean time please see the list below and contact me with your requirements [hbomford@clear.net.nz](mailto:hbomford@clear.net.nz) or by cell +64 21 045 8069

A big "thank you" to all those who have made purchases from our CQ Store. Your support is much appreciated and lets us develop the museum displays.

ITEMS EXCLUDING POSTAGE	PRICE in NZ\$
4RR Hackles	\$17.50
Business Card Holder – stainless steel with Lion & Tusk engraved	\$20
Berets	\$50
'Gun control' t-shirt – <b>only 1 left</b>	\$20
Lion & Tusk Baseball Caps	\$23
Lion & Tusk Beanies green, black or other <b>(even pink!)</b> on request	\$20

Lion & Tusk Dog Tags 'silver' or 'gold'	\$30
Lion & Tusk Polar Fleece jackets – long sleeved in green, black, navy	\$60
Lion & Tusk Polo shirts - black or green	\$36.50
Lion & Tusk T-shirts - black or green	\$30
Lion & Tusk Women's v-neck stretch shirts - black	\$30
Name badge – resin coated	15
Number plate surrounds – 4 styles to choose from	\$12
Regimental 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
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 have a number of requests for information:

- It has never been clear at what point the Independent Companies (Indep. Coys.) went from being Rhodesia Regiment to Rhodesian African Rifles. I served in 1 and 4 Indep. Coys. between 1976 and 1977. We had RAR soldiers attached to us but we were never issued any RAR badges, uniform etc. My discharge papers dated October 1977 are stamped “1 Indep. Coy, Rhodesia Regiment”. This has been a point of argument for many years now. If there is anyone who can help with any finite information, Alex would appreciate your input so that he can hopefully set the record straight in this book.
- We would like to hear from people who served in the Indep. Coys. between 1964 and 1970 and also between 1971 and 1975 especially from 1 Indep. (Wankie) and 2 Indep. (Kariba).

Photos for this book are to be sent to me:

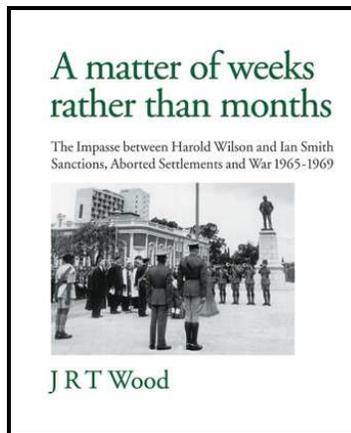
PO Box 13003, Tauranga 3141, New Zealand or email [hbomford@clear.net.nz](mailto:hbomford@clear.net.nz)

**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.***

**The Global Forked Stick**

**'A Matter of Weeks Rather than Months - The Impasse between Harold Wilson and Ian Smith; Sanctions, Aborted Settlements and War 1965 – 1969' by J.R.T. Wood**



While the British and the Rhodesian whites attempted to negotiate their future, the African nationalists were not content to await the outcome. They had already adopted the concept of the armed struggle as the route to power and, sponsored by the Communist Bloc, its surrogates and allies, they began a series of armed incursions from their safe haven in Zambia. As yet, however, they lacked willing recruits or a population that welcomed their call for revolution. As A Matter of Weeks shows, their campaign was a failure but they would learn from their mistakes as the already over-stretched Rhodesian forces would discover in the 1970s.

For more information and orders visit [www.jrtwood.com](http://www.jrtwood.com)

**Bullion Wire Blazer Badges**

Made by Ken Palmer in Perth, Australia, all Rhodesian units are represented, the craftsmanship is of high quality and the prices are reasonable. Visit <http://www.rhodesianservices.org/Links%20to%20our%20supporters.htm> to see his currently available badges or email [faggamoto@optusnet.com.au](mailto:faggamoto@optusnet.com.au) or [KPalmer@macmahon.com.au](mailto:KPalmer@macmahon.com.au)

This letter from **Rich Byrne** entitled "The Outnumbered":  
*"Dear Family, Friends, and Business Associates,*

*October 26, 1978, was a day that I will never forget.*

*My Uncle Joey was killed. I cannot even begin to tell you what a devastating loss this was for me and my family. The pain and loss that I experienced on that day had never been met before and I hope I never experience it again in my lifetime. I never talked about this loss, never! But in recent years as I visit his gravesite on a weekly basis, I have started to open up about it. My closest and dearest friends never knew that my uncle was killed in a far, far off land. He was the subject of numerous newspaper articles, magazines and books, a couple even dedicated to him. His association with certain people and organizations, which shall remain nameless, is the type of stuff that novels and movies are filled with. Here lies the irony: He was such an avid reader of these novels that it only seems fitting that he became a product of them in an all too real way. Yes, I kept this all to myself until now!*

*Trooper Joseph Patrick Byrne was ambushed and killed in action while fighting against communist terrorists in Rhodesia (now called Zimbabwe). He was a member of an elite commando unit which only now is being studied in military schools and quickly becoming recognized as one of the greatest counterinsurgency groups of all-time. He was fighting for his own belief system, a belief that Western Civilization should be preserved at all cost. It was his beliefs, moral convictions, and his education in the United States school systems that taught him that democracy should prevail over tyranny at all costs.*

*I have taken it upon myself to preserve his legacy and to ensure that he is never forgotten. For this very reason I have aligned myself with a gentleman I call friend. Saxon Logan, an accomplished film maker from the UK has come up with a wonderful concept for a movie about an element of the elite commando unit to which my uncle was attached. I believe so wholeheartedly in his vision that I have personally financed and developed a website to draw attention to this project.*

*I would kindly ask all of you to spend sometime perusing all the great information contained within this website. We have also taken the liberty to include a concept video about the proposed film. Watch it—through it you will be educated about a country that was once considered the bread basket of Africa. Today Zimbabwe lies in near ruins.*

*In order to get the Screenplay written and to search out filming locations we need to raise seed capital. And although there is the customary way to invest in the film we are also accepting contributions. Every little bit will help*

and these donations will be transparent to all contributors. There are approximately 250,000 Rhodesians worldwide. If everyone contributes what they can, we can make this project a reality. See how we have packaged this concept by visiting [www.theoutnumbered.com](http://www.theoutnumbered.com) and then decide if this project is worthy of your donation.

*This is truly a wonderful project that honours all those that were killed, wounded, and served to preserve Western Civilization*

*I thank you all in advance for taking the time to visit the website and watching the concept video.*

*Best Wishes,  
Rich Byrne"*

**Nicole and Philip Wade** are offering these Ian Douglas Smith GCLM ID Limited Edition Prints. 10% of sales will be donated to various Rhodesian associations. To support the Rhodesian Services Association, please ensure that you nominate us on the order form.



**"Destiny" by Deon Stahmer. Overall size 681mm x 592mm**

This unique limited edition print depicts two MK IX Spitfires of 237 (Rhodesia) Squadron RAF flying over Tuscany, Italy. F/O I.D. Smith was flying MK227 on strafing missions just prior to being shot down over Northern Italy.

On sale are 720 Gallery Quality Prints individually numbered and signed by Ian Smith and the artist. Price R1,980 per print (Approx US\$270 or £130)

Also available are 40 Publishers Proofs individually numbered and signed by Ian Smith and the artist. Price R2,700 per print (Approx US\$360 or £175) These are nearly sold out so be quick with your order!

Price includes:

Individually signed and numbered print; Ian Smith's history; History of 237 (Rhodesia) Squadron; Certificate of Authenticity (UK MoD certification and original signatures appear below the print); Rhodesia Land Tenure Map as at 21st October 1977; Insured postage.

This price is an introductory offer specifically to Rhodesians. In due course the Gallery Quality Prints will be advertised in international aviation art magazines for \$375.

To order:

Email: [dotlam@mweb.co.za](mailto:dotlam@mweb.co.za)

Or write to: PO Box 804, Randpark Ridge, 2156, South Africa

Or Telephone +27 11 795 2107 or Fax +27 86 611 8044

**Wayne Kennerley** writes:

*"Hi Hugh*

*I am working on a nominal roll of African members of the BSAP for the BSAP Regimental Assoc. I wonder if you could please publish this letter asking if anyone has any BSAP documents showing the names, force numbers etc*

of African Members (Regular, Reserve, Male & Female). I would be most grateful for scans/photocopies of any documents.

Thanks in advance  
Wayne

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Wales  
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This information and review was sent in by Mark Scott:

**The Victorians: Memories of South Africa and Rhodesia**, by Tony Seward, 254 pages, Perfect bound, catalogue no. 06-0901, ISBN 1-4120-9147-0

This is the autobiography of a former member of the B.S.A. Police, of Rhodesia, a force with a long and distinguished reputation as one of the finest police forces in the world. Born of English parents in London on the 11th May 1940 Tony Seward was the only son of Conrad and Frances Seward. After the Second World War his parents resolved to emigrate to South Africa where Tony was educated in Natal a coastal Province of that country. His parents divorced in 1952 and his mother emigrated to the then Federation of Rhodesia and Nyasaland in 1957. Tony emigrated to Southern Rhodesia in 1958 and joined the British South Africa Police on the 17<sup>th</sup> November of the same year.

About the Book:

They were turbulent times in the Federation of Rhodesia and Nyasaland. Harold Macmillan's "winds of change" had turned into a raging storm of political unrest, which swept through Africa culminating in an all out terrorist war, which eventually engulfed the entire region. Tony found himself thrown into this turmoil and became a reluctant rebel when the Rhodesian Government declared Unilateral Independence on the 11th November 1965. Terrorist incursions into the country were increasing and there was no time to reflect upon the rights or wrongs of the Ian Smith Governments unilateral declaration of independence.

He spent much of his service in Victoria Province in the South of Rhodesia and most of that in the South Eastern area at Vila Salazar, a police post on the Mozambique border where the country's 'Political Restricted' were being held in camps.

He grew to love the Gonarezhou area, its wild life and its people and made many friends in Rhodesia, South Africa and Mozambique during his service in that area. As the terrorist war crept southwards, Tony cultivated these friends as willing agents for the Rhodesian Security branch.

He tells of the tragedies and triumphs of the country then attacked from all directions and the eventual take over of the Rhodesian Government by the Mugabe led Zimbabwe African National Union in April 1980.

After his retirement in 1983 Tony moved to take up the position of site manager of the Kyle boat club near Masvingo in the new Zimbabwe. He tells of the deterioration of the economy and the eventual land invasions by former terrorists and others hungry for land. Personal concerns for his own safety and security resulted in Tony returning to the United Kingdom in 2004 and his struggles to get into the 'system'. He tells of his efforts to re-establish old friendships and how he has managed to adjust to his new environment after fifty-seven years in Africa

(Editor – this book can be bought from [www.booksofzimbabwe.com](http://www.booksofzimbabwe.com) )

**John Edmond and the team at Roan Antelope Music** write:

*Hi folks,*

*On 28<sup>th</sup> June 2008 John and Teresa did a Rhodie concert in Musina – so close to God's country! In fact some folks came over the Limpopo to share in the hooley!*

*The atmosphere was fantastic. It was like a family that had never been apart with everyone singing, having chibulies and sharing in chatter of the good old days which was as usual, portrayed in songs in a fashion that only John Edmond can! John sang a selection from his titles 'Troopie Songs', 'Zimsongs', 'Heritage', 'Where we come from' and loads of numbers from 'All Time Rhodesian Evergreens'*

*The words of the songs touched a nerve with people when they recalled what it was like 'way back then' and some of the songs summed up the political situation as it is today, 'Zimbabwe ruins'.*

Hence, this month, Roan Antelope Music is offering this great collectors item - 'All Time Rhodesian Evergreens' which is a double CD containing 44 songs in all.

On this CD are songs like 'They're Everywhere' which was written for you folk scattered far and wide and as the words of the song says - Neil Armstrong even saw a Rhodie on the moon! There are pioneering songs about Rhodesia's founders and the men who featured in her history; Rhodes, Baden Powell, Livingstone and ordinary people like "Sandy", "Harry", "Ridgeback", "Kashile" and "Rupert Fothergill". There are songs about pioneering life like 'The Zeederberg', 'How many Crosses', 'Gods Country' and 'Agisymban Trilogy'. There are also songs about her contemporary folk like 'Wheelchair Warrior', 'The Great White Tribe', 'The Whenwe Song', 'Rhodie Girl', 'Rock 'n Roll Rhodie', 'The Troopie' and 'Rhodesians of the World'. What has transpired in Zimbabwe over the last decade may make one sit up and listen to 'Salome Jennifer and Me' - many of the towns they visited have had name changes. 'Zimbabwe Ruins' - the words in this song have come true. Then talking of elections there is 'London Bobby' from 1980. One thing they can't change is the beautiful sights of 'Mosi o Tunya' and 'Chayira'. And for lighter moments you can listen to 'Braai in the middle of England', 'Sitting in the Bundu' and the 'Chilapalapa Song' and last but not least 'Christmas in Rhodesia'.

Our July Special - 'All Time Rhodesian Evergreens' SA Rand 175.00, UK Pounds 22.00, USA\$ 45.00, Aus\$ 52.00, NZ\$55.00

To order:

Go to [www.johnedmond.co.za](http://www.johnedmond.co.za)

Or Tel +27 14 735 0774 Fax. +27 86 601 1817

Email: [jredmond@mweb.co.za](mailto:jredmond@mweb.co.za)

Prices include packaging and registered mail postage all over the world because as you know - Rhodesians - "They're Everywhere"

Lastly this report from **'The Herald', Harare, Zimbabwe** dated 9<sup>th</sup> June 2008:

*"Police have launched investigations into the activities of a secretive group of former Rhodesian army officers who were holding clandestine meetings at the Memorable Order of Tin Hats Memorial Centre in Braeside, Harare, amid concerns that the group could be linked to military-style attacks being perpetrated on Zanu-PF supporters by suspected MDC-T activists countrywide.*

*War veterans and Zanu-PF youths in the area stormed MOTH Memorial Centre following a tip-off from members of the public before calling Braeside police to investigate activities there.*

*The place, a whites only bastion, which was accessed for the first time by a group of black people who do not work there last Wednesday afternoon, resembled an armoury with an assortment of weapons including guns, bayonets, machetes, grenades and tear-gas canisters.*

*Among the memorabilia were various badges of several Rhodesian Army units, helmets, camouflage jackets and pictures of prominent Rhodesian settlers.*

*Prominent among the plethora of memorabilia and armaments were the British and American flags, and conspicuous by its absence was the Zimbabwean flag.*

*Workers at the Memorial Hall said the ex-Rhodesian soldiers known as the Memorable Order of Tin Hats, held meetings three times a month on Sundays, except the first Sunday of the month. Some of their activities included commemorations of certain battles won against freedom fighters during the liberation struggle.*

*Among the memorabilia were flags and badges of feared military units during the liberation struggle such as the Rhodesian Scorpion Shellhole, that was notorious for atrocities against freedom fighters.*

*Among the successful raids against freedom fighters celebrated at the secret place included forays by the Burma Road Unit, Clickity Click Unit, The Valley Shellhole of 1969 and the Mashonaland Raiders of 1975.*

*Harare provincial police spokesperson Inspector James Sabau yesterday confirmed the secret meetings saying investigations were underway.*

*"In view of the isolated violent political cases happening across the country, police have instituted investigations into the purposes of these meetings.*

*"We are interested in the dealings of this group and police are currently on the ground investigating activities at the meeting place," he said.*

*He, however, indicated that no arrests had been made in connection with the meetings.*

*"The members would meet in the evenings and no black person was allowed into the room once the meeting was in progress. Only a few trusted workers were allowed to clean the place after the meeting," said some workers on condition of anonymity.*

*Residents of Braeside and Cranborne expressed outrage at the activities of the Rhodesian group whose memorabilia also bemoaned some raids that were not carried out.*

*"These are the people who massacred our colleagues during the war. The Rhodesian Scorpions were a ruthless unit that killed many freedom fighters. This flag reflects an aborted raid on March 4, 1976," said Cde Rodwell Zata, a war veteran.*

*The meetings, held under the cover of darkness and secrecy, come in the wake of several unsolved violence cases that have bewildered security agents in the country.*

*Two Zanu-PF supporters were recently murdered in cold blood by suspected MDC-T gunmen while several cases of arson targeting long-distance buses, commuter omnibuses and passenger trains have gone unsolved for months.*

*The violence that has engulfed some parts of the country has been attributed to rogue elements in the opposition who have vowed to make Zimbabwe ungovernable to warrant external intervention."*

One assumes that this article was written in all seriousness as there does not seem much to laugh about these days in Zimbabwe.

For those of you who do not know, The Memorable Order of Tin Hats (MOTH) is the equivalent of the Returned Services Associations in New Zealand and Returned Services Leagues in Australia. They were founded in Durban, South Africa in 1927 as a result of a cartoon drawn by their founder member Charles Evenden. Almost immediately the idea caught hold in the U.K. and is symbolic of the great friendships which had occurred, during and after, the Great War, 1914 -18. MOTHs are an independent order of ex-servicemen and women of the British, Commonwealth and Allied Forces encompassing Navy, Army, Air Forces, Marines and Merchant Seamen who served the Forces on Active Service Stations and includes Rhodesian Security Forces who served from 11<sup>th</sup> November 1965 to 5<sup>th</sup> March 1980; South Africans on active service from 1<sup>st</sup> December 1983 to 2<sup>nd</sup> February 1990; members of American Forces and their Allies in Vietnam from 22<sup>nd</sup> December 1961 to 7<sup>th</sup> May 1975. Their clubs are known as Shellholes. More information is best viewed at [www.moth.org.za](http://www.moth.org.za) and <http://www.firstworldwar.com/features/moth.htm>

Until next time - go well

Cheers  
Hugh

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

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