

# BSAP Outpost

Christmas 2018

Australia

## Editorial reflections on BSAP heritage

### The nature of the modern Association

The BSAP no longer exists, it is a memory - RIP 1980. It was very special Regiment for many and an experience shared by an ever dwindling number who experienced something unique. An experience that it is almost impossible to really explain to those we now share our lives with - our family and wider kin. You had to live it to really understand.

Cecil Rhodes vision led to the formation of the British South Africa Company and no matter how revisionists like to re-write history of that era, he must have been an incredible man to drive that vision into creating countries that went on to share his name - both Northern and Southern Rhodesia, holding little Nyasaland's hand like a baby sister. The names have gone, now Malawi, Zambia and Zimbabwe. Countries that have struggled with mixed results to make a name for themselves.

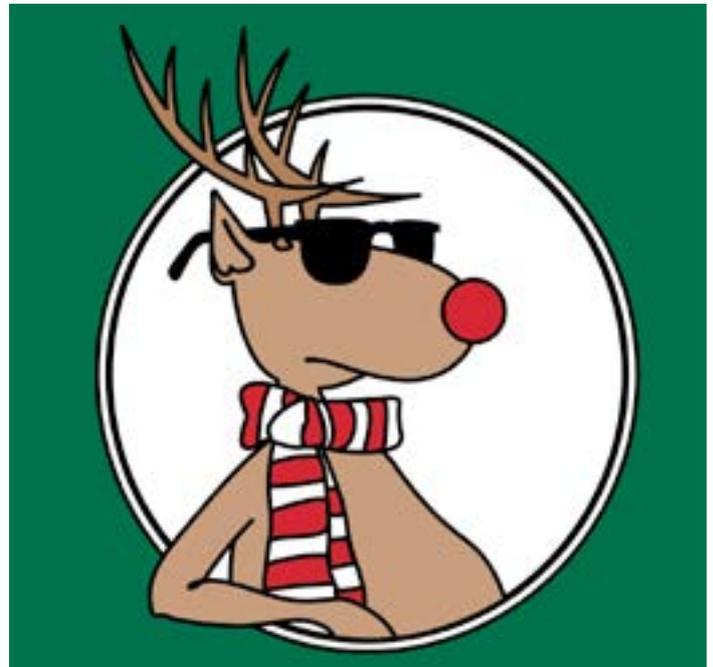
Times have changed, attitudes have changed, but some things don't or we hope they don't. The spirit of what the BSAP stood for across those 80+ years of the 1900s.

### 19 and Green

I recall being a still very young 19 year old, already wise in the ways of work and farming but still completely naive in the ways of war, policing, law, mortuaries and whatever. An Irishman in Africa - and still green inside and out.

I signed up for the BSAP, but it very nearly didn't happen that way. Given the choice I was choosing a life at sea back in the UK. My father - who had abandoned Ireland's equally green and pleasant land for a dream of a 'farm in Africa', was vehemently against my returning to the UK or Ireland and even more against the Royal Navy. I think he might have relented to a cadetship in the British India Steam Navigation merchant marine which I explored pretty seriously. I fancy I might have ended up a tanker captain or if I overcame my instinctive shyness, a captain on a cruise liner plying the Caribbean! I did go on to

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be a broadcaster so shyness can be overcome.

But my love of horses and the bush allowed me to relent, and arrive in Salisbury for the 'interrogations' for the next squad in June 1967. I still think it was amazing that I got in - I had no plan B - and the rest would have been another long story.

Big life changes and big shocks at a time when we teenagers were trying to figure out the really scary stuff in life - like how to ask a lass out without bringing on crippling rejection or deep embarrassment - and all this on a tiny salary, most of which went on mess fees.

Not that that stopped us trying to figure out the best ways to climb up that multi-storey block in Depot that the WPO squad occupied, suitably guarded by a 24/7 Askari. It was all about the challenge and being able to impress the WPOs. Why? Who knew, we were too naive to plan beyond the climbing up the walls part of our hypothetical vision to impress the girls!

## Memories or music

The Who's Pinball Wizard, Stone Poney's Different Drum, the Beatles Penny Lane, were my memories of that time, the next year Fleetwood Mac and Deep Purple, would enter our psyche in a big way. There were some Rhodesian tunes too but I can't recall any squad members having a radio - I had a rescued portable tape deck - I could fix most things technical then - but I packed it with my spoken Law and Police notes so I could listen back as I went to sleep. Ironically radio, which was to play such an important part of my later Rhodesian life, wasn't really on the horizon in the first eighteen months.

Those were taken up with Depot, Driver Training school and Central, which included cold nights patrolling outside Ian Smith's house; or much worse, trying to stay awake while across the road in the Governor General's place where you had to sit in the relative comfort of an inside office with nothing to do except be caught out looking dozy at 1am.

The BSAP was very quickly becoming my new life.

## Depot

Along with that Depot journey was plenty of horse time which I adored, Law and Police which I surprised myself at being pretty good at, and some events like the first mortuary trip which left me with an aversion to cheesy scrambled eggs that we were served on our return. Sub-cutaneous fat on toast! An association that took many years to overcome. I was conned into join-

ing PATU although I think it wasn't officially called that at the time - by my allegedly mutinous exploits when out training in some very mountainous and wildlife infested mountains. Apart from running up an elephants rear end in immensely tall grass, and learning a deep wariness of baboons, I did get to share an amazing connection walking with a sable antelope who had to be the most magnificent creature I have ever seen.

Insp. Tackie Macintosh was my squad instructor and still leaves me with fond memories of a man who was to be obeyed. He was fair and had solid values and a sense of humour under it all; partly borne out by his choice of a tiny little car - think it was a Lloyd - which some larikens lifted onto the concrete top of the refrigeration equipment alongside the cafeteria. No it wasn't me - I was a goody two shoes in Depot.

## Typing

Depot memories include horse troughs and overhead monkey bars in freezing July, and piggybacking your squad mates up and down the seating in the rugby ground, all of which took their toll, but were well outweighed by the thrill of a gallop on one of the finest horses I have ever had the honour to ride. In spite of his phobia for bees my main horse was poetry in motion.



*Depot typing instructor Anne Lovell - 1980 - as I do many of my friends who 1974 had no choices - many of them Shona or Matabele and nowhere to go.*

Annie Lovell had somehow signed up for the impossible job of teaching us putty fingered recruits typing - she did it valiantly and by sheer determination and charm managed to start me on my later career of journalism and IT. Thank you Annie, another treasured memory from those days, though I was sad to hear on FB recently that she died in a car accident in 1980. Unconfirmed but sad if true.

Then there was my batman who always smiled cheerfully and left me feeling guilty if I scuffed up his wonderful work. I wonder how his life turned out post 1974

## Winds of change

Comradeship was good, at a time when a 'comrade' was generally a nasty word. Someone who would be sent across the border carrying an AK47, an RPG or landmines and whose victims were almost always defenseless tribal residents trying to grow mealies and tend their cattle unaware they were just pawns of the superpower rivalries of a cold war that was hot where they lived.

Atrocities and death in the name of freedom - whose

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freedom? Visions of barbarity we will carry to our graves and cannot share, will not share. Our version of memories evoked by the sound of 'the channel seven chopper overhead'!<sup>1</sup>

Driving school was an interesting place, an old RAF colonial pilot training centre converted into a driver training centre. There was a serious side to this - ridiculously high speeds in a heavy tank of an Austin Westminster simulating a terrorist attack on the car and how to get the attacking vehicle off your tail. I must have learned well because years later when asked to drive my little burgundy Lotus 'roller skate' Europa for a police training or recruiting video. The scenario was me being chased by the shiny new BMW Bcar. I managed to lose him very effectively. Damn, the brass said we had to film him catching me even though he never did. Oh well, I know that and now you do to. I did get a big bunch of fuel coupons for my efforts. Rationing hurt.

## Dried fish dreams

Then a stint in Central, I learned that the dried fish fed to prisoners in the cells smells awful; met my first actual terrorists in the cells, and realised that taking a handful of no-doze caffeine pills in the wee hours while on the beat, can make even normal things seem to be very funny!

Back to Cranbourne after Central and being stationed at the lovely Braeside was a great experience. Very multicultural and a favourite of the recently arrived British migrants. Nappyville, lots of new houses being built, open country with balancing rocks, and some troubled crime hot spots for folks who didn't really think they belonged anywhere and sometimes had a chip on their shoulder. Their bark was worse than their bite and once they knew you were there to protect them too came good.

I was told that postings tended to follow the rumour mill. Really? I started spreading the rumour that I was getting posted to Borrowdale. I loved the mix of suburbia, small farms, mines and the huge tribal trust lands.

Well surprise, surprise; I did get transferred to Borrowdale. Awesome, I like this rumour thing as a means of getting posted. Days out in the rural areas but still close enough to the city to be civilised. The down side is you did get to deal with a lot of deceased folks, and quite a lot of them you had to bring back to the Harare mortuary. Suicides, drownings, a few murders which were often GBH gone too far. The worst was a guy killed over a two dollar dispute. But the greatest cause for trip with the body box was a fetish that our darker

*"I was only 19"- an Australian song about the Vietnam war by Redgum that is iconic about that conflict.*

cousins had. It involved wearing navy blue overalls, riding a black bicycle, and avoiding reflectors or lights on said bicycle. They were consequently invisible as they struggled up the road pedalling valiantly but often erratically only to be given a one way ticket to heaven by a bus, truck or car. I became very familiar with the trip to, and surroundings of, the morgue. Easter weekends were a disaster. Never did get used to it.

Some years later I heard a rumour. I was getting posted to the Morgue. I knew about this posting malarkey, I took a job in radio and remained an A Reservist and Patu participant for the remaining five years of my Rhodesian holiday.

Eventually, Australia beckoned, initially as a couple of years before I headed over to Canada my desired destination. Life's lottery turned that around and I ended up staying in Australia forever, apart from regular trips to other world venues including Canada. The balance of my family joined me from South Africa and have settled in well.



## The Aussie Regiment

We ex BSAP and our Rhodesian friends, spouses, kith and kin are now a far flung community. We are mostly proudly having made good citizens in our newly adopted countries, adapted well to change in roles, business, technologies and cultures.

We honour in our own ways, the BSAP experience, and we are now the most precious component of the Association - the people - all of us.

We shared a common experience yet need to accept that we are all different, unified through that experience. Our mission now as an Association - worldwide - is still caring for our community as we did in the force. - our Regimental community as our numbers thin and as our challenges grow, but our spirit and optimism prevails in that good Rhodie spirit.

## As time passes

This edition celebrates the lives of a number of significant members who have passed on, their loss our shared loss. The reality that this is an association which relies on a couple of handfuls of people across this great wide land to roll their sleeves up, keep in touch, organise or attend events, listen out for friends in need and rally the team to help in whatever way we can.

As an optimist my wish is for us to share more of the stories of our times,

Reflectively yours  
The Editor

# Derek Hardey in Canada

When Steve Acornley, Hon. Sec of the UK Association, was visiting Melbourne, I went out for the day with him. The conversation turned to my Canadian connection, and in the course of the day he agreed to provide me with data on other former BSAP who might be in and around the city of Victoria on Vancouver Island BC. As Station SLO in Australia's own Victoria - state - I was keen to see how many of the regiment we could rustle up.

Originally, I was only going to contact Dave Darby, who lives in Sooke, Vancouver Island, when I spend several weeks in the town of Victoria, Vancouver Island, where my son lives. This led to several contacts being made over a number of weeks and has established a "Station" on Vancouver Island with Martin Edwards heading it up and acting in an SLO role for this.

It was pleasing to be made so welcome, especially as I really only knew Dave Darby. The remainder, in true BSAP fashion, were very accommodating and went to great lengths to catch up.

Martin Edwards has agreed to be the focal point of a "Station" on the island, and he has already been in touch with most of the members.

Bob Gillespie (age 86) is truly amazing and still very active!! Bob knows Frank Hill well and it appears that



several of the members had knowledge of each other, but that no coordination had been in place.

Martin Edwards, who previously lived in Ontario over ten years ago, had a group in that part of the world but time reduced the numbers till it fell away.

Bob Gillespie had a similar tale for Vancouver where a group of ten plus had been loosely connected till time caught up and reduced the numbers.

I am very grateful to Steve Acornley's efforts in not

only getting me the basic info on former members, but in making them aware I would be attempting to catch up with them when I visited. Joan and I would like to thank one and all for being so available to meet us.

We enjoyed every moment spent in their company and wish it could be more often. Hopefully there will be some familiar faces and by sharing on Outpost, more people can keep in touch. I hope that the group does

maintain contact and prospers as I would like to catch up with them next time visiting my son in Victoria, Vancouver Island.

I remain amazed at the ability of past members of the BSAP to so readily relate to each other, and long may this be so.

Kind regards,

Derek Hardey 7069  
SLO Melbourne, Vic

# Black Boot Reunion - Port Shepstone KZN

5th-6th October 2018

Alan and Lesley Hadfield attended the weekend Black Boot reunion in Port Shepstone along with 110 attendees from all over the World, namely Australia, England, USA, Zimbabwe, Namibia and South Africa, of Unit Members and friends of the Unit.

The event was extremely well organised by Barry Woan, Sakkie Mackay, Ron Rink and Brain Goddard.

We arrived early on Saturday morning and treated to the BSAP and Rhodesian flags flying from the flag poles at the Moths Cinder City Shellhole in Sea Park, which was both emotional and very touching.

## Support Eagle golf shirt

I collected my fantastic golf shirt depicting the Support Unit eagle and date of the reunion, which I was instructed to put it on straight away, and luckily fitted me.

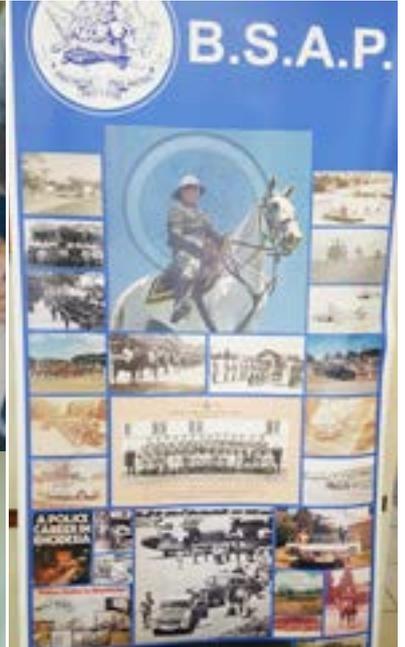
On entering the Shellhole hall / bar I ran into guys that I had not seen for 40 odd years and fortunately we were all given name tags, as some of the faces did not match the faces I remembered. Alex Fraser, Mike Clayton, Des

Niemandt and Manie Du Preeze, all of whom I had not seen for about 44 years.

## Aussie 'Support' from Alan and Lindsay

Lindsay O'Brien, now living in Brisbane, also attended.

Sakkie Mackay was the 'Master of Ceremonies' and once everyone had arrived, started the formal part of the Reunion and the Remembrance of our 110 fallen brothers, which was extremely emotional and as I looked around, there were tears running down faces including my own.





sian, with some of the biggest success rates of the bush war.

It was fantastic that there were four of my Squad mates, 1/72 at the reunion as well, namely Red Smith, Jeff Smith, Tim Sidey and Scatch Isdale, who weren't in the Unit, but had worked closely with them during the Rhodesian War.

### 110 now fallen

The 'Last Post' was played by a bugler from the local SAS Association and the lament was played by a very good piper from the local Moths.

Assistant Commissioner Ian Hogg, ex Officer Commanding Support Unit gave an awesome account of his time at the Unit, saying how proud he was of commanding the largest amount of fighting men in Rhode-

### Rugby intrudes - as it should

After the reunion finished a group of us, 35 plus, went to a local drinking spot, highly recommended by Porky Paul, to watch the Springboks play against the All Blacks on the big screen. We had a lovely a meal with many, many drinks and loads of very amusing stories being shared about our times in the BSAP.

Alan Hadfield  
Vice Chair BSAP RA

## Annual General Meeting in Perth, 9th March 2019

The AGM of the Association will be held in Perth on March 2019 at the Belmont RSL club, 22 Leake Street, Belmont, Perth, from 1000am to 1500pm.

Keep the date open and if you are interstate this is an excellent opportunity to fly over and join the legendary WA hospitality with a strong and very active contingent of ex BSAP and even wider ex Rhodesian community.

A number of people have already indicated they will be flying over and sharing an AirBNB, which makes for an even more convivial event while keeping the cost down.

Your new Committee and office bearers will be elected at the event, so please nominate!

BSAP forensic scientist Hilton Kobus has accepted as guest speaker after lunch for with visuals.

There is a cash bar and lunch and morning and afternoon teas will be provided at a cost of \$30 per person; catering managed by Dave and Karen Freemantle.

## The National Committee

The 2018 BSAP Regimental Association Australia AGM, held in Melbourne on 3rd March 2018 elected the following National office bearers

- Chairman - Will Keys [chairman.australia@bsap.org](mailto:chairman.australia@bsap.org)
- Vice Chairman - Alan Hadfield
- Secretary - Joan Fletcher
- Treasurer - Jacki Keys
- BSAP College Representative - Will Keys
- Editor of the Outpost - Simon Johnstone
- Committee Member - Ant Balocca

### State Liaison Officer's

- ACT – Simon Johnstone
- NSW – Alun Vaughan with Alan Hadfield
- VIC/TAS – Derek Hardey/ Anthony Balocca
- QLD – Joan Fletcher (Secretary) assisting as SLO
- SA – Rick Annesly
- WA – Dave Fremantle with Janine Bradfield

# Formation of BSAP Australia Branch.

## By Rob Gates 7045, with contributions from colleagues.

In 1980/81/82, there was a big influx of new Rhodesian arrivals in Western Australia. Perth was the preferred destination for most of these new migrants. Others had made arrangements to take up jobs in rural locations.

### The RAWA and the big post 1980 influx

The Rhodesian Association of WA (RAWA) had set up a support service to assist new migrants. RAWA members with BSAP backgrounds included Kerry Hoadley, John Seward, Rob Gates and Tom Doherty. All of them and others were instrumental in setting up social gatherings of former BSAP personnel during the 1980s and 1990s.

A meeting was held at the Gates house in about 1981/82 to see if there was any interest in forming a branch of the Regimental Association in Perth. No firm decision was made at that stage to form a branch. Amongst the attendees was former Commissioner Jimmy Spink, who had taken up residence in Perth and lived there until he died in January 1997.

In December 1982 ex-Senior Assistant Commissioner Richard Hamley and his wife Helen arrived in Perth. They joined RAWA and sought out Tom Doherty who had been Richard's first Member-in-Charge. Richard Hamley obtained a position with the WA Royal Commission into deaths in custody. He became acquainted with Ian Calderwood, a serving WA Police Officer, who had formerly served in the BSAP. From this core of people an informal network steadily grew and after work Friday night social get-togethers took place.

The growing network received occasional stimuli such as the visit to Perth by Lew Whitmore and his family. The opportunity for Lew to mix with former colleagues and better meaningful job opportunities were the catalyst for the family move to Perth from Victoria to where they had emigrated to in 1981.

Personal connections within other BSAP branches and encouragement from people such as Hugh Phillips in Zimbabwe saw a notice being placed in the RAWA newsletter seeking expressions of interest in starting a branch of the Regimental Association. A well-attended function was held at the Hamley household and the process of forming a branch commenced. The informal network was effectively filling the benevolence and

social activities roles of a branch. The Australia branch was established in 1998.

Richard Hamley was elected as foundation Branch Chairman. Foundation office bearers were John Seward as Secretary, Kerry Hoadley as Treasurer and (later) Outpost Editor, Lew Whitmore as (Welfare Officer) and Rob (Bob in BSAP) Gates as Vice Chairman. In the second year of the foundation of the branch, Rob Gates succeeded Richard Hamley as the branch Chairman. Richard continued to provide information and advice to the Committee and made several donations to the branch. He was the first life member to be appointed by the Australia Branch.



### RSL registration

An early action by the Committee was to apply to the WA branch of RSL for registration as one of its member service organisations. This was granted. The registration was made in the name of the BSAP Regimental Association Australia Branch.

Early formal functions such as the AGM and the formal annual luncheon were held at the RSL WA headquarters. The location of these functions was subsequently moved to the Belmont RSL. They were well supported in both locations. One was a formal annual lunch with a guest speaker. Speakers included a WAPOL Deputy Commissioner and WAPOL Commissioner. Others included former BSAP Officers, Rhodesian Services Officers, former Rhodesian magistrates and former Rhodesians who had held senior positions in commerce and government and had BSAP connections. The other was an AGM at which included a Chairman's Report and an independently audited income and expenditure statement. Branch reports are based on the calendar year.

The formation group in Perth received strong support from the two former ranking officers living in Australia, SACs Bert Fremantle(4105) and Doug Wright(4071). Prior to attesting in the BSAP both had served in British forces in World War Two.

### Brisbane connection

At the time of the establishment of the Australia Branch, committee members liaised with personal contacts in Brisbane. Through an open and mutually agreed process, a decision was made that a separate Queensland branch would be formed as there were sufficient former BSAP serving officers, living primarily in Brisbane, for a separate branch to be formed.

Richard Hamley produced the first two Outposts which

*Association history, continued on page 7*

*Association history, continued from page 6*

were named the Way Out (WA) Post. In 1999 Kerry Hoadley took on the role of Editor. Following liaison with the new Queensland branch it was decided to produce a joint Australian Outpost. New editor Kerry Hoadley compiled and edited all the material which was obtained from local and overseas sources. A ready to print master copy was sent to Queensland branch committee members and they circulated it to their members. The Australia Branch circulated copies to all its members and to overseas branches. Content included a section from the Queensland branch.

### **Interstate Liaison officers**

Due to growing interstate interest liaison officers were appointed in Victoria (Derek Hardey), Alan Prince (NSW until 2009) then Alan Hadfield, Will Singleton (ACT) and John Heycock (Tasmania). Those volunteers were all people known to various Perth based committee members. Members of the committee when visiting those four met with other members in those states.

Following the successful 2013 Canberra celebration of the Centenary of the founding of the Regimental Association Lance Bradfield was appointed as the South Australian Liaison officer. It was known that several former BSAP officers were living in the Northern Terri-

tory including some serving in the NT Police. Numerous attempts to appoint a Northern Territory liaison officer were unsuccessful.

John Seward was the first of the long-serving committee members to retire and was recognised for all his work with being awarded life membership of the Association. All benefited from John's extensive network of contacts from his BSAP years and his Internal Affairs years. Howard Martin took on the role of secretary following John's retirement from the position.

Other long-serving Perth based committee members including Ian Calderwood, Charles Scott (Police Reservist), Howard Martin, Steve Martin and Peter Scott. All made major contributions to the success of the branch. Tom Doherty(4326) was the honorary auditor for the Association from foundation to 2016.

Early in 2016 and as direct result of the possible closure of the Branch, a National Committee under the leadership its first National Chairman Alan Hadfield, was formed to cover the whole of the membership throughout Australia, and retained the name Australia Branch encompassing the entire country including Queensland.

**Rob Gates**  
7045



### **WA gathering of Rhodesians**

The above photo was taken on the night of the Xmas dinner at the Belmont RSL. It shows all the attendees including our SLO Janine Bradfield and regular social organiser Dave Freemantle. It was a modest turnout by BSAP, but otherwise an excellent evening.

Wonderful food and spans of raffle prizes, live music

and a good festive air, even if they don't look a particularly cheerful lot, but Janine assures us everyone was in very good festive humour!

The popular venue will host our AGM on 9th March 2019 at the RSL Belmont in Perth.

# Mr Hambagashle

We were discussing Rhodesian icons recently, and strip-roads and chameleons came up. Richard Watters commented on chameleons.

“My understanding is that “Hambagashle” is Ndebele for a Chameleon, and is not looked upon very favourably. In fact, he is ‘Very Bad Muti’.

I don’t know whether you are familiar with the little creature, I had one in my room when I was stationed in Umtali. None of the African servants would come into the room, I had to leave my boots, gaiters and belt outside to be polished.

Hambagashle moves in a very slow and stately fashion. Each leg is picked up, raised and put down in a very leisurely manner as he moves slowly forward, with his “turret like” eyes revolving around, surveying the landscape.

He is very bad medicine purportedly for the following reason, so the story goes.

Hambagashle (Mr H to his few friends), was out for a stroll one morning when he came upon a small group of Matabele tribesmen who to his astonishment had “White Skins” !

They told him there was a pool nearby that the Great Bwana in Heaven had created in which Black people could bathe and become White !

Mr “H” immediately recognised he could be very popular amongst those in the local Kraal to let them know, and left “quickly” to spread the word.

I am sure you have already gathered that “quickly” is not a word which appears readily in Mr H’s vocabulary.

He got to the Kraal and spread the word. The whole Kraal rushed off to the pool BUT, HORROR OH HORROR .....Hambagashle had taken so long to get back to the Kraal, THE POOL HAD DRIED UP !

So the Matabele tribesmen and Black Africans have had to forever remain BLACK !

Understandably Hambagashle is very bad medicine.

Regards

Richard Watters  
4845

## Editor’s comment:

I always loved chameleons and when stationed at Borrowdale we had a long walk down from the PO’s mess house between a tall hedge row of trees. Chameleons loved these trees and were commonly found on them waiting for lunch to come within the range of their wonderful sticky tongues.

Being very tame and absolutely harmless, they made good companions on my shoulder as my own private fly swat - oh how I missed them when I came to Australia - the land of a trillion flies! Also as their name implies, they are slow to move. (Go well/slow)

As I would walk into the station, most people would not notice my companion, but at some time it was inevitable that someone - usually a constable or complainant would notice it with a resounding ‘aieee’ which attracted lots of attention.

Others would come running to see what the issue was, and the first time I did this - quite innocuously - it took a Sergeant to enlighten me on the local - Shona superstition. It seems that chameleons are associated with infertility among men. The sergeant assured me that as I had my

friendly chameleon on my shoulder dispatching flies I was guaranteed not to be fathering any children by mistake. He and the rest of the constabulary were going to be assiduous in avoiding touching the wee reptile. I respected their anxiety and Mr Chameleon’s needs and put him back out bush on the trees.

Interestingly, Marshall’s pygmy chameleon which is a lot smaller, exists only in a limited range in the mountains of Manicaland and across the border in Mozambique. I believe it’s range is quite limited so its long term survival is challenged.

## The Editor



## BSAP Queensland Macleay Island 20th Oct

What a perfect way for a group of BSAP Queensland members to spend the day. Sea, sunshine, fine food, wonderful company and plenty of laughter, this sums up our visit to Macleay Island. Despite carefully worded directions and do's and don'ts in bold, certain members of the male gender (Who claimed to know the way) ended up at the wrong ferry terminal. By some miracle and thanks to the skillful persuasion of a certain blond treasurer, the last member of our group leapt onto the ferry as it left Redland Bay.

Chris and Joan Wheeler were there to greet us on arrival, we split into two groups climbing into the buses they kindly provided for us. Winding our way uphill toward the Bowls club we passed the Fire station on our right and a primary school for two hundred pupils on the left. High school students are transported by bus to the Ferry terminal where a special ferry transfers them to the Redland Bay Ferry Terminal. On arriving at the other end, school buses are waiting to take them to their respective schools. Cer-



*Brian Oberholster*

tainely an unconventional way of getting to school.

Lunch at the Bowls club was an absolute delight, we were seated comfortably at a long table overlooking the bay. Generous helpings of everything from seafood to delicious deserts, beautifully presented. Relaxing with a glass in hand while enjoying the Island atmosphere was exactly what we hoped for.

Chris told us how he, Joan and their two daughters had moved from England to Bulawayo in 1970 for a

two year contract; Chris worked for the Bulawayo City Council as a Chartered Surveyor. Once the contract was completed he was offered a permanent position. In 1973 the Wheelers migrated to Rhodesia as residents, their son was born in Bulawayo.



*George and Sophie Economos*

There were a few chuckles when Chris mentioned Safari suits, they were comfortable and cool, so what happened to them? Chris was a member of the BSAP Police Reserve, reminding us how the one weekend a month call ups progressed to whole week stints. He shared some of his experiences including being woken by a nasty stench which turned out to be the bad breath of a curious giraffe sniffing his face. Astronomy, including photographing the galaxies is Chris's passion, a fascinating subject. There is of course an island prerequisite that resident enjoy boating and fishing.



*Back Row: Joan Fletcher Richard Symmonds, Brian Oberholster, Will Keys, Ken Cunliffe Narelle, Rose Lowe, Miriam Oberholster, Chris Wheeler, Luanne Cunliffe, Toni Symmonds Jessica Symmonds, Jacki Keys, Joan Wheeler, Eric Lowe.*

When Chris and Joan moved to Macleay Island nineteen years ago there were about a thousand residents, Chris bought the local Estate Agent business when they first arrived, selling it when he retired. There are many beautiful homes on the Island which now home to four thousand.

Half the Island residents commute to work on the mainland and the other half are retirees.



*Will Keys and Chris Wheeler*

We had the pleasure of meeting George and Sophie Economos who joined us for lunch. George and Sophie own the Pharmacy on the Island, they also owned the Regal Pharmacy in Harare, together with pharmacies in Gatooma and Bindura.

Our return journey was a tour of the Island with its three shopping centres, one dentist, one vet, two medical centres, library and post office. A self sufficient place 18 minutes from the mainland.

On the ferry journey back to Redland's bay, we again saw George and Sophie Economos who live in Thornlands and commute by ferry to and from the Island daily. We would like to thank Chris and Joan for welcoming us to the Island. We all agreed we had a wonderful time and would like to do something similar in the future.

Joan Fletcher

## Moon Acres lunch NSW

5781 Alun Vaughan suggested having a 'on the spur of the moment' luncheon in the NSW Southern Highlands and the place chosen was Moon Acres in Robertson.

On Saturday 25th August 2018, 8755 Alan and Lesley Hadfield, 5832 Ian and Anne-Marie Pullar and 5781 Alun and Marion Vaughan linked on a very cold and wet day at Moon Acres Restaurant in Robertson.

Moon Acres prides itself on preparing organic food, which was extremely tasty and a delight to eat.

Many a story were told between, Alun, Ian and Alan



about their respective times in the BSAP, whilst the ladies had wonderful chats about everything other than the BSAP.

## Rhodesians Worldwide magazine

Members who do not receive Chris Whitehead's excellent quarterly magazine 'Rhodesians Worldwide' can have a free look at this publication.

Write to the Editor of the Outpost and I will contact Michael Hambrook who has a couple of spare copies and he will then send you a complimentary copy so you can decide if you would like to become a subscriber.

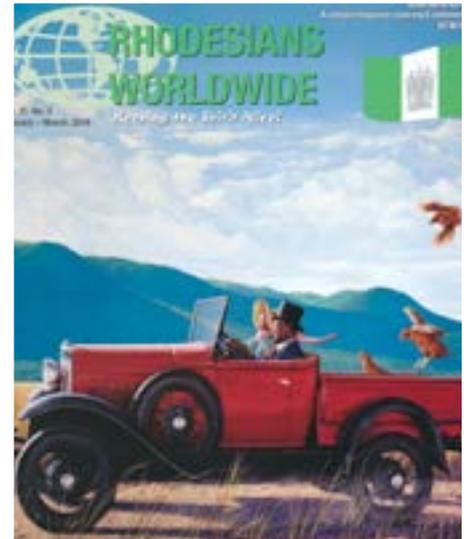
No obligations at all. It is an excellent magazine and lets us keep up to date with Rhodies all over the world.

The magazine has been "keeping the spirit alive" for the past 33 years. We are dedicated to keeping Rhodesians and those interested in our country in contact

with each other and we encourage you to browse this site and to subscribe to our wonderful magazine that is produced by Rhodesians about Rhodesians and for Rhodesians.

Rhodesians Worldwide® Magazine

Four issues published each year since 1984 - the July-September, 2018 edition is now available



## BSAP RA Australia funding model

We get questions about membership and funding and the simple answer is we concentrate on networking and keeping in touch with those who may have lost contact with other members and ex Rhodesians. You can find details on how to join and eligibility on the back page of this Outpost.

Our modest bank balance grows steadily from functions we run and donations from members, quite a few of whom are still working.

There is no schedule of donations, but most are between \$20 to \$100 and all welcome.

Members donate to the BSAP RAA on a voluntary basis and the funds go towards underwriting major events which usually return an income afterwards, and outreach for our membership.

Bank details for direct deposits are as follows:

Account Name: BSAP Regimental Association  
Australia;  
BSB: 036001  
Account Number: 459125

*Regards  
Joan Fletcher  
Honorary Secretary  
BSAP Regimental Association*



## Robertson catch up NSW

The NSW and ACT Stations had a casual catch up at Moonacres Restaurant, on the Illawarra Highway in Robertson, close by the Rail Station, where some of us have gathered previously.

Left: enjoying Robertson's sunny spring day are Dennis and Gaylene Richardson from Auckland, New Zealand. Dennis was a TF in Army in Rhodesia and went to Cranborne School in Salisbury and Gaylene went to Chaplin High in Gwelo.

Then Will Keys - Chairman of the Australian BSAP Regional Association, and Jacki Keys our Treasurer both down from Queensland; Editor of the Australian Out-



post Simon Johnstone, Lesley Hadfield and our previous Chair, now sporting a beard, Alan Hadfield.



## Our mailing list

We now have 224 members and friends which is a healthy state of affairs. If you know someone who served or is family of someone who did then please encourage them to join up. The last page of this Outpost contains the application form.

## Mulgrave gathering in Vic

Fifteen Victorian Members gathered at a new venue, The Mulgrave Country Club, which had been proposed by Dave and Shirley Massey.

We had lunch on the Terrace, overlooking the bowling greens and with the weather being sunny, if perhaps a little cool, it proved to be a very successful rendezvous.

Food was excellent and all enjoyed the lunch, the drinks, and most importantly great company, as the attached photos clearly show. We arrived at Noon and only departed around 4 pm.

Thanks to Dave and Shirley for "finding" the venue, and consensus was it should be used again."



# Rhodesian Slang - continued from previous Outpost

Rhodesian Slang was a combination of local African language terms – usually Shona in the north and Ndebele in the south (offshoot of Zulu), often shortened or mangled; some Afrikaans words from South Africa; some derived from specific military jargon and often only used in that force; and some whose origins are lost to time. They reflect a country and time where multiple cultures and languages interacted, but should never be seen as a derisory or oppressive use of language. We run these in some issues and suggestions are most welcome:

**Masikati** – Shona for afternoon

**Manjimanji** – maybe this week bit like manyana

**Mapurisa** – Shona for police

**Mombi** – cow

**Mushi** – good, yummy, very nice or Afrikaans lekker

**Muti** – any medicine

**No fashmal** – no sweat – stay cool

**Nunu** – insect/pest

**Nyama** – meat as in steak

**Nyombies** – a delectable set of female anatomy

**Ou** – you, a person usually male

**Paw Paw** – derisive term for a politician usually a poofie pongo one

**Passop** – look out from the Afrikaans

**Picanin** – small child

**PK** – toilet or longdrop – chimbuzi in Shona

**Pongo** – Originally a UK resident

**Poofie** – derisory term used as a put-down – as in car

**Pull a fade** – not show up

**Pull through** – device to clean a rifle barrel but also used to describe a skinny individual

**Dhonza** – pull in Shona

**Putsy** – really simple, easy

**Puza** – to eat

**Robot** – traffic light

**Rock up** – to arrive somewhere, as in ‘rock up about five’

**Rods** – mens pants

**Sadza** – ground corn porridge – sometimes white sometimes yellow

**Shanya** – crazy

**Shateen** – the bush

**Shattine** – miles away and unlikely to be a desirable destination

**Shanu** – the number 5 in Shona

**Poshi** – the number 1 in Shona

**Gumi** – the number 10 in Shona

**Sheesh** – roughly translated as an expression of puzzlement or exhaustion

**Shupa** – to annoy or nag

**Sis** – express revulsion, something grotty

**Slops** – thong type sandals – see also takkies for tennis style shoes

**Sterek** – enthusiastic term, usually used for ‘like very much’

**Struze** – used to emphasise something as worthy of attention

**Sundowner** – a sociable evening drink – usually with others

**Takkies** – rubber and canvas tennis style shoes, usually kept white using blanco

**Tchiya** – hit with a fist

**Tchwala** – alcohol or booze

**Tenga** – to buy

**Toots** – drinks

**Uzzi** – much admired little machine gun made in Israel

**Uxolo** – sorry in Ndebele – note the x in Ndebele, Zulu and Xhosa is usually a click sound

**Umlili** – fire in Ndebele

**Voetsak** – Afrikaans term for bugger off or get away!

**Varume** – men in Shona

**Vakadzi** – women in Shona

**Zizz** – as in have a zizz or nap, in Portugese east is would be a siesta

**Zonke** – all

**Zut** - nothing

## About our Hon Sec

Joan Fletcher is the Honorary Secretary of the Australian BSAP Regimental Association and keeps very busy with all the correspondence and other work associated with the role. The Committee twisted her arm to tell us a bit about herself.

## My time in the BSAP

Joan Fletcher's first introduction to the BSAP was at the age of nine, when she was flower-girl at the wedding of her older sister Avril, who married Buddy Deetlefs (5470) Dog Patrol. Many weekends were spent at the BSAP Dog Training school, Lomaundi Road, Salisbury, where her sister and brother-in-law were stationed.

In 1969 Joan married Patrol Officer John Fletcher (7512) becoming a wife of a member. The Fletcher's were posted to rural stations in the Mashonaland Region of Northern Zimbabwe over the next ten years.

The first eighteen months of these years were spent in Norton where Joan worked at the local Smiths garage. John received a transfer to Goromonzi and Joan was to learn the wife of member was seldom consulted about the timing of these moves. She would be eight months pregnant the day they moved. The best of plans can go awry and their first child Antoinette (Toni) was born a month early, the day before the removal truck arrived. Joan's sister Cicely came to the rescue, unpacking the entire house hold for her.

Two and a half years later the Fletcher's were on the move again, this time to Mtoko. The terrorist war had hotted up with curfews in place. Joan was told to remain in Salisbury until the arrival of a second daughter, Rachel. It was thanks once again to family members who unpacked and set up home in the Club cottage.

At Mtoko, Joan was asked to put her limited secretarial skills into action by assisting with the administration at the Joint Operations Command (JOC). This was her initiation into working for the BSAP. JOC Mtoko was a busy operational headquarters for the Air force, Army and Police. Helicopters and troops were constantly moving in and out of camp.

Living in the Club cottage had its advantages as Joan was a keen tennis player,

while John played golf on the somewhat unconventional golf course. The whole family enjoyed the swimming pool and other club facilities. The cottage did not have a security fence which was at times nerve racking, especially with a husband away and two children under three years of age in the house. Grenade screens were the only form of defence and of course, two large dogs.

## SO John to Rusape

Having been promoted to Section Officer, John was transferred to Rusape where Joan took on the wife of member administration post at the Rusape Police station. Great friendships were formed at all rural stations and Rusape was no exception. It is amazing how friendships lasted, despite moving stations and eventually countries. A bond was established with so many who still keep in contact and will never be forgotten.

The last and final move with the BSAP was to Umtali. John had been promoted to Inspector and took over as Officer-in-Charge at Umtali Rural. Joan worked as the wife of member secretarial post.

John, Joan and the girls lived in Umtali as the Rural station accommodation had been converted into a mess for single members. Mortar attacks were something Umtali residents experienced more than once with mortar pits a regular feature in most gardens. Convoys were common place with the occasional attack. Joan was a member of the Theatre group and continued enjoying her tennis at the Police club.

## Wattle Company, Umtali

The terrible Elim Mission Massacre took place while John was Inspector-in-Charge at Umtali Rural. Despite the challenges, including a terrorist war and constant moves, for Joan these were some of the happiest days and fondest memories of her life.

In 1978 John left the BSAP and joined the Wattle company in Umtali. When Mugabe became President the Fletcher family moved to South Africa.

In 1993 John died suddenly leaving Joan a widow. In 2005 Joan moved to Australia joining her daughters and families.

She now resides in Brisbane Australia, within a stone's throw to her two daughters' families and her four beautiful grand-daughters.



Joan Fletcher

# Part two of John Savage Memoirs

*In the last edition of the Outpost, John Savage 4663 shared his exciting memoirs of BSAP service and Rhodesia, including service in London, where he was the last Recruitment Officer at Rhodesia House which is where we catch up with his story.*

*He had met two expensively dressed and well fed African gentlemen who didn't have names. They were trying to recruit mercenaries who would fly via Rhodesia into Mauritius where they would meet up with another batch from South Africa. The group was then to carry out a coup somewhere in the Comoro Islands. This was a bizarre and almost unbelievable plan.*

*Soon after this strange affair John received a coded message from Security Branch Salisbury, requesting that he take delivery of a package from a certain person at a certain place.....*

Then to check and confirm that the contents were listening devices, which were to be sent out in the Diplomatic bag. That was strictly against Consular protocols concerning the contents of 'the bag' and I realised I was getting caught up in activities which were outside my designated duties. But the gizmos were dispatched anyway. Naturally it occurred to me that if our side was using this technology then there was little doubt that the High Commission was under even closer scrutiny. How much did Inspector Jones really know, and I couldn't help thinking that my phone was probably bugged...

## Intrigue, High Commissioners and MI5

I was getting jumpy which led to another unexpected situation. This was a matter that I have never spoken about, but in this company and after so long I feel I now can. The High Commissioner was an extremely respected Rhodesian citizen who had a most engaging charisma and was greatly regarded by all staff. His personal secretary was a highly qualified and attractive lady of an Hungarian background. From casual observations of both official and social events, it appeared to me, indeed sufficient to speculate, that they were involved in an extra curricular dalliance. My main concern however was that she could be an MI5 plant which I must admit made me wonder if I was developing paranoia.

## Commissioner Barfoot

At this time Commissioner Barfoot flew into London to have a benign tumour removed from his brain. The Commissioner asked me to see him and during our meeting I raised my concerns in regard to the High Commissioner and his secretary. Within a few days the High Commissioner was recalled to Rhodesia.

He was replaced by Brigadier Andrew Skeen, ex Indian Army who had retired to Rhodesia before becoming an MP for the Rhodesia Front. He lacked the approachability and charisma of his predecessor and was an unpopular appointment from the outset. The Hungarian lady was not seen again. Bearing in mind that planning for a major political announcement was obviously under consideration the change-over to a hardliner could have been set in motion before my speculations were aired. I allowed that supposition to ease my conscience, but Smith's book *The Great Betrayal* which detailed events at that crucial time, made no mention of the recall of the High Commissioner. Skeen was not even included. These seemed to be most unusual omissions.

## UDI - 11 November 1965

It was still rather a shock when the UDI was announced on the 11th of November 1965. I was later informed that the Chiefs of the Army and the Airforce were against such a move, but that the Commissioner of Police had supported it. There were those who pondered whether or not the brain operation had been successful! Certainly there was upheaval at Rhodesia House because most of the permanent government servants were recalled and the majority of local staff retrenched. All further active recruiting was immediately stopped by the Commonwealth Relations Office and the Recruiting Officer was set down for dismissal. I advised Skeen that I still had many in the pipeline and a growing list of successful applicants ready for departure, so he slipped me into the list of the remaining caretaker clerical staff.

## Persona Non Grata

Soon afterwards he was declared persona non-grata and was expelled from London having served only four months. Sydney Brice, our former deputy, was stripped of Diplomatic status and of course the services of 'the bag', and became charge d'affaires. Increased protests were mounted outside the building mainly by Africans but with some rag-tag whites who were usually hired. Placards were held up with ZANU and ZAPU slogans such as, "We will crush British Imperialism". "We will use force". "Victory to our Freedom Fighters"; and "Death to the Settler Regime".

Soon afterwards I watched a Panorama TV programme hosted by Cliff Michelmore which set out to depict life in Rhodesia after UDI. To set the tone there was the usual format of shanties on one side of the void, and splendid homes with swimming pools and tennis courts on the other. Whilst this frequently seen rubbish was always among a more sinister portrayal was to follow.

## Michelmores's Jack Booted police story on Panorama

There was reference to the jack-booted Police state that had emerged. Large numbers of uniformed Police, heavily armed with rifles and shotguns, were shown de-bussing from trucks.

## BBC Faked News

I immediately recognised them as the South African Police and the dead and the wounded Africans strewn across a township street were actually historical images from Sharpeville in South Africa.

To further emphasise their portrayal of the subjugation of the masses, they presented scenes of unreformed 'policemen' firing mortars. This clip was taken from a Portuguese army training film depicting a military exercise in Portuguese East Africa (now Mozambique). Overall this was false reporting at its most cynical.

I immediately went to the BBC and registered the strongest possible complaint with the production manager of the programme, pointing out the magnitude of the distortions. He said that there must have been some incorrect retrieval of archival material, and promised a retraction would be published.

Nothing came over TV, but several days later at the bottom of page 6 of the Telegraph, a single paragraph apologised for inaccuracies, which were not detailed, concerning the Police in Rhodesia. They well knew that the adverse image they had sought to achieve would have had the impact they desired.

## Last recruits flown out late December 1965

As a result of Skeen's decision to keep me on, the last of the recruits were flown out late in December. The downside was that the press had apparently been tipped off and were on hand to photograph me farewell the last batch from Rhodesia House.

I was interviewed and stated categorically that there had been no new enlistments since UDI and that the men leaving had been recruited prior to the 11th of November. That assurance didn't deter the Telegraph from publishing the photographs under the bold heading Rhodesia Police Still Recruit Britons, and stating that I was aiding the illegal regime under the nose of the British Government.

The CRO acted on the Press report and required my immediate dismissal. So in effect the last London based B.S.A.P. Recruiting Officer for the U.K was pushed out at about the same speed that he had moved in and that celebrated position passed into history. But I was grateful for my good fortune in having experienced a most intriguing, challenging and satisfying 20 months in the job.

## Five recruits deserted

In conclusion and rather disappointingly five of the men in whom I had put my trust deserted the Force following UDI and made scurrilous reports to the British media

Excepts from the official Police response to this distorted press coverage were as follows:-

Two members of the Force PO Owen age 25 and PO Bamber, age 20, both recruits in training at the Morris Depot, failed to return from a days outing on the 28th November. It was later ascertained that they had hired a car in which they had driven to the Bechuanaland border. They presented themselves to the Immigration authorities at Plumtree, but sensing that the official on duty was suspicious regarding their movements, they rushed out of his office leaving a passport on the counter. They drove off in a northerly direction, abandoned the car and then made their way on foot over the border into Bechuanaland. (Now Botswana)

The other three, POs Ridgewell, Mason and Bryant made their way to the British Consulate in Beira from whence they were repatriated to Britain. These men came out to join the BSA Police from Britain with 29 others and arrived here on October 15th. The report then detailed some of the falsehoods they fabricated such as the police being equipped with Bren guns, Owen guns and Mills bombs; and the police officers were encouraged to provoke peaceful Africans so that they could be shot.

The report continued; "The BSA Police has recruited men from Britain since the earliest days of its formation and a major portion of its present European strength came originally from the British Isles. Prior to acceptance in London, each of these men were interviewed by an ex Inspector of the Force who has built up for himself among the many recruits who have passed through his hands, an excellent reputation for thoroughness in putting across an accurate picture of life in the Police and in Rhodesia generally. Each of the men gave a written acceptance of his conditions of service and an undertaking to serve an initial contract of three years. Each swore an oath of allegiance to the Crown in which he promised inter alia, to keep all laws for the preservation of the peace in Rhodesia".

The report concluded "Whilst it would be difficult to suggest the true reason for these desertions, it must be made clear that the events leading up to the 11th of November and indeed since that time have in no way changed the role of the Police to maintain law and order, neither have they affected the high principles that have characterised the duties it has carried out. It has no part in politics, being a civil force, and enjoys a reputation for justice and fair play second to none, as its history over the preceding years since its very inception shows".

[Our thanks to John Savage for sharing interesting times.](#)

# Vale - 'Mike' Harold Cave

## PR 15152 - 15th August 2018

*John Seward 4649 notified us of the death of Mike Cave, who he met in 1966 when Mike was the Manager of Dorowa Mine in the Buhera. It was here that Mike joined the Police Reserve PR15152.*

"Harold Cave, who was known as Mike, was born on 2nd September 1924 in Bournemouth England. He was the only child of Percy and Nellie Cave. While he started his schooling locally, his education was interrupted by world war II, even though he had won a scholarship. Mike took up work as an office boy at British Powerboat Co which he hated, his next position was as a lab assistant at Brown's Dairy which he loved. Having joined the Met office briefly he then at the age of 17 joined the Air Force in 1941.

The following year he transferred to air crew doing preliminary ground training in the UK. He then travelled on a troopship to Durban and on to RATG (Rhodesia Air Training Group) Ground school at Hillside Camp, Bulawayo.

Mike was transferred to a number of Southern African bases where he trained on a variety of aeroplanes before taking part in 14 missions. These included the bombing of Dresden in World War II, February 1945 and various food drops. In 1946 he left the Air Force.

Working as a market gardener, before pursuing an agricultural degree, he at some stage actually enrolled at The University of Dublin. Sadly, because he hadn't finished school he could advance no further. He worked in a boring job at the Income Tax office before joining the Officer's Association employment branch. His intention was to return to Rhodesia, unfortunately, he didn't have the skills required, and therefore moved to South Africa as a Student Mining Official.

Mike and Elizabeth were married on 10th January 1948 in England. They moved to South Africa where Mike completed a stint working on South African mines before moving to what we now know as Tanzania. Their daughter Sarie was born in Mufulira, now known as Zambia. Mike was working at the Mufulira Copper mines when he was given the opportunity to study at Camborne School of Mines in England from 1953 to 1956 at the companies expense. Their son Neil was born in 1957 while they were still in the UK.

Fully qualified as a Mining Engineer, Mike left England with his family returning to Africa. In 1959 he was appointed shift boss and later promoted to Mine Captain.

## Canadian Connection

Spending several summer months in Canada during leave experience at the Nordic Uranium Mine in Ontario stood him in good stead later on.

In the early 1960s Mike moved his family to Southern Rhodesia where he found an opening at the Government Mining Department, Salisbury.

He was Mine Manager in various places throughout Southern Africa over the next 15 years.

In 1980 The Northern Territory Govt. Australia was recruiting staff with Uranium experience. Mike and Elizabeth moved to Jabiru where they remained during 1981. They then moved to the South Australia Dept. of Mines in Adelaide where they stayed until retiring in 1989.

Mike and Elizabeth Cave moved to Perth in 2003 with the intention of being closer to their daughter Sarie, her husband Dave and their children. The wonderfully positive Elizabeth sadly passed away in 2011 and from then on Mike lived alone in Belgrade Park in Wanneroo. During his final years he was a very private man and didn't socialise much with the people in the village. It is a beautiful environment with gardens and flowers. Not that Mike was the best gardener. He trimmed the roses at Sarie and David's home, by cutting off all the flowers and putting them in the bin! He was fiercely independent and not happy to accept help! He was also loyal, intelligent and resilient with a wicked sense of humour. Plus in truth, he could be an awkward old bastard!



*John Seward 4649*

## Tribute from Mike's family

We acknowledge your intelligence, your cheekiness and your very naughty sense of humour!

We also recognise your solid work ethic over the years, especially having cruelly missed out on earlier education which you made up for it later at Camborne. This lack of formal education didn't seem to hamper your employment trajectory.

We acknowledge you were a traditional man, with all the views that come with a man from your generation. You liked to lead and basically, whatever you did and said was right – just ask you!

We give thanks for your loyalty, your resilience and your ability to adapt to new situations and countries – although your views remained the same.

## Vale - Dave Clinker 5848 - Brisbane Qld Australia

David John Clinker was born in Odiham, England in 1937. He moved with his family to South Africa where he finished his schooling.

I am pretty confident that on completion of school he went to work on Devuli Ranch in the Lowveldt in Rhodesia.

It seems that in 1958, at the ripe old age of 21, Dad was a Constable in No. 5 Squad of the BSAP (see photo). In 1963, at the age of 26 he was a Detective in the Criminal Investigation Unit (see photo).

Dad met Adrienne Jean Norton and they were married in 1969. By this time Dad lived and worked at Gwaii River Mine in Dett where he managed the African workforce.

He got into coaching athletics and enjoyed training some very talented African middle and distance runners, some of who represented their country at a variety of international meets.



### Chibuku - Beer

He worked on mines around Sinoia before becoming a Marketing Director for Chibuku, The People's Beer!

Dad was a Sect. Ldr in the Police Anti-Terrorist Unit



(P.A.T.U) during the war and at the age of 41 completed a Stick Leaders course in 1978.

After the war Mum and Dad decided to immigrate to Australia in the hope of providing a more secure future for their intellectually impaired daughter and more

opportunities for their youngest daughter. They arrived in Australia in January 1983 and were kindly sponsored by Alison and Dave Catherall in Brisbane for the first three months.

Dad struggled to find work and was a taxi driver for a short period of time. There was a brief altercation with the chief mechanic one-day after he accused Dad of being a brainless immigrant (not in as nice words apparently). Dad didn't take to kindly to those words so after holding the gentleman up against the wall for a short period of time, decided the taxi industry wasn't for him. For an even briefer time Dad was a door to door vacuum cleaner salesman, much to his family's merriment as we had never seen him use a vacuum cleaner in his life!

After about six months Dad finally secured a travelling salesman job in Sydney for Outokompu- Bateman (think this is correct spelling). Dad enjoyed about 18 months of speeding around parts of southern Australia, nearly losing his license due to aforementioned speeding, before securing the managerial position for the Australian arm of mining equipment supply company, Eimco, based in Mt. Isa in 1985. He also enjoyed being a member of the Rotary Club in Mt. Isa.

### School Bursar - Charters Towers

In 1988 Dad was offered the position of Assistant Bursar by the ex-Rhodesian Principle of Blackheath and Thornburgh College, the boarding school in Charters Towers his youngest daughter was enrolled in. This gave Dad the chance to 'learn the ropes' for the soon-to-be retiring Bursar who managed all the school's finances, ancillary and grounds staff. Dad became an integral part of the school community and enjoyed the family feel of this long established North Queensland educational establishment. Dad was in involved in the Parents & Friends Committee, assisted with the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme, was instrumental in gaining heritage funding for restoring the iconic Thornburgh House; enjoyed coaching

Continued from page 17

football and athletics; and was often seen mowing the main oval with a ride-on lawn mower (for stress management purposes!). Dad apparently was the unwitting

to be closer to his youngest daughter and his beloved grand daughters. He was able to continue his bowling career with the Doonville Bowls Club and loved to spend a Saturday afternoon burning up the green.



We certainly always think of Dad with laughter at the hundreds of 'incidents' that either caused much laughter or fear of imminent death!

He was a loving husband of 49 years to Jean, beloved father of Robyn and Lee, Dave-In-Law to David and favourite Oupie to Molly and Felicity.

Lee Field - daughter of David John Clinker

David John Clinker 5848 - D/Constable; served between July 1958 - January 1964.

A Member of the Australia Branch, he passed away on 28 November 2018 - Brisbane, Queensland, Australia.

supplier of homebrew beer to senior boy boarders who knew how to break into his 'beer factory' and borrow bottles without him knowing.

Our colleague John Gold from Qld passed on the thoughts of the Association, Dave's fellow officers and friends to his wife Jean and family in our acknowledgement of a life so well lived.

### Clinker's Kingaroi Kia

In 1996, Mum and Dad 'retired' to a farm, "Clinker's Kia", in the Kingaroy district. Mum worked as a nurse at Murgon and Kingaroy hospitals while Dad tended his growing flock of Boer goats. He became Secretary of the Boar Goat Association and was an avid bowler with the Kingaroy bowls club.



### Maryborough

Age and ill health got the better of him and they retired for a second time in 2013 to Maryborough, Queensland

## Vale - Mike Edden 4727 - Qld Australia

With very great regret we learn of the death of Michael Edden who passed away in Queensland, Australia. Michael was born 21 November 1930 in Bromley, Kent, England, the son of a medical professional, Reginald Edden and Lilian (nee Baxter). He was raised in Kent, but was educated at Abbey School, in Berkshire and then Ardingly College, Sussex. Mike, as he was better known, attended the Royal Military College at Sandhurst.

### Joining in London

Michael was recruited to join the BSA Police in London and he sailed to Cape Town in May 1951 aboard the Carnavon Castle, from his home in Eden Park Avenue, Beckenham. He attested into the BSA Police June 1951 and attended Morris Depot. As a uniformed member of the force, Mike was stationed at Gwelo Rural, Fort Victoria and Zaka before joining the plain clothes branch. His first Criminal Investigation Department (CID) stations were Bulawayo's Property and Cycle sections.

### Umtali and Manicaland

Mike was transferred to Umtali, in Manicaland where he served as a detective on a four year tour, before being posted to Salisbury. He was promoted to Detective Inspector in September 1961 while stationed at CID Salisbury. This was followed by a posting to Sinoia, in the Lomagundi District, where he first took on the role of police intelligence with the newly formed Special Branch in 1966.

Michael returned to Salisbury in 1968 to take over as head of the Murder Section before his commissioning as a Superintendent in August the same year. He was promoted to Chief Superintendent in July 1972 and in 1975 Mike took over the Special Branch role at Joint Operations Command (JOC) Hurricane. He remained with Special Branch for most of the rest of his career.

### PSBO in 1976

In 1976 Michael became PSBO Salisbury and Mashonaland Province (taking over from Alan Best) and then as a senior Special Branch officer became a member of the Nation JOC based at Combined Operations (COMOPS) Headquarters. During his tour with COMOPS, Mike formed a National Interrogation Team, comprising seasoned Special Branch and Special Forces men,

which made a significant contribution to the war effort. It is perhaps a little ironic that he was appointed to the National Amnesty Directorate as the Special Branch representative in 1979 as the war was drawing to a close and political change was afoot. He retired with the rank of Assistant Commissioner and settled in Mallorca, Spain where he lived for 10 years.

### Bophuthatswana and back to Zimbabwe

In about 1990 Michael joined the intelligence services of Bophuthatswana, a scattered patchwork of enclaves within South Africa. With the re-integration of Bophuthatswana back into South Africa in 1994, Mike's prospects were limited so he joined Col. Ian Bate in Johannesburg running a security consultancy. He returned to Zimbabwe to join his son on a farm in the Karoi area, shortly before Zimbabwe's catastrophic and destructive land invasions began, which saw his son and family lose their home.

### Active retirement in Australia

Michael eventually emigrated to Australia, where he settled in Queensland. He became the Hon. Secretary of the Queensland Branch of the Regimental Association. Mike had been a very great advocate of inter service community and was a founding member and well respected patron of the Rhodesian Veterans Association (Queensland Branch).

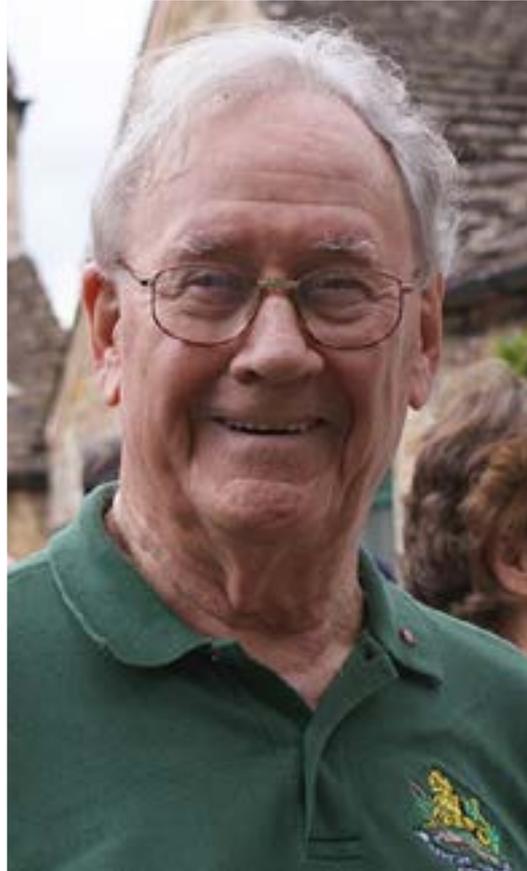
He was awarded the Police Long Service Medal with clasp in January 1971 and honoured with the Police Meritorious Service Medal in November 1976.

### Victor Ludorum

Mike had excelled at sport and represented teams in athletics, hockey, cricket, and rowing amongst others. He had been in the Combined Services Athletics Team at Sandhurst, and several police teams at various levels of sport. In Depot he won the Victor Ludorum while a trainee policeman. He had a strong interest in canoeing and at one time canoed down the Zambezi River with colleagues, Dave Hallward and Tony Bradshaw. He was elected to the Executive Committee of the Zimbabwe Olympic Committee after 1980.

### Rosemary and family

To Michael, his family was very important. He married Jean Rosemary Smith at St. John Pro-Cathedral, Bula-



*Continued from page 19*

way on 15 January 1955 and together they had four children: two daughters Rosalyn and Deborah, and two sons, David and Malcolm. They were by his side when he passed. Our thoughts go out to them and we join Michael's former colleagues in extending our condolences and sympathies. He shall be sadly missed.

Andrew Field 8646  
8 December 2018

Mike's decline was rapid at the end but we were fortunate to know it was coming and comforted that his

family were with him. He received many good wishes through his son who had taken over his email account.

Further background on Mike's contribution can be obtained from John Gold in Queensland who has published further material - both from Mike on his years in service, and his saddened colleagues.

The Australian branch extends their deepest sympathy to Rosemarie and Mike's other family and friends.

[John Gold in Queensland](#)



## Vale - Hywel Parry Jones 6609

It is with deep regret that I must advise the passing on of 6609 Hywel (Parry) Parry-Jones on Thursday 13th December 2018 at Kettering Hospital, Northants near his home.

Parry had been suffering from cancer and recently had an operation but struggled to gain the strength to receive the necessary further treatment.



He attested on 12/02/1962 and was discharged on 27/01/1981 with the rank of Supt.

Parry was a staunch committee member of the UK Branch and was a cheerful and dedicated Editor of the Outpost at the time of his passing as well as being the Functions Secretary.

Our sincere condolences to Parry's family and Kate.

[Steve Acornley 7784](#)  
[Hon Sec UK BSAP Regimental Association Branch](#)

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## In Memoriam

We honour their service, and we think of them, their friends and family. The BSAP.org website keeps an up to date listing of all members who have passed on.

<http://bsap.org/index.html>

## Web Links used in this Edition

Australian BSAP RA Facebook Page <https://www.facebook.com/groups/120004948438873/>

BSAP.org - the international web site <http://www.bsap.org>

## Contact Us

Editorial and picture contributions along with other matters for discussion can be sent to the [outpost.australia@bsap.org](mailto:outpost.australia@bsap.org).

All correspondence sent or forwarded to the [hon.sec.australia@bsap.org](mailto:hon.sec.australia@bsap.org) will be shared

with the Chairman and committee members unless marked: 'Private and confidential.'

## Vale - Charles Scott - WA

Charles Scott passed away in Western Australia on 9 September 2018 following a heart attack, 17845W - 1931 - 2018

Charles was born in Bulawayo, Southern Rhodesia on 30 October 1931 at Sister Snow's Nursing Home which happened to be opposite the Grey Street Jail. He was the only son of Henry and Trish Scott who had emigrated to Rhodesia from South Africa in 1930.

He was raised on a cattle ranch "Boomerang Block" on the fringe of the Matopo Hills, the property of Maj. Charles Duly, the founder of the well-known firm Duly & Co. His father was the manager of Boomerang for 33 years. (As a matter of interest, the police station of the district until the latter part of the 1930's was at Fort Usher at which were also stationed the Assistant Native Commissioner, Tommy Lewis, who was the last victim of the Red Baron, and a police trooper of notorious fame, "Lofty" Lloyd.

### Milton school, Bulawayo

Charles was educated at Milton School (both junior and senior schools) in Bulawayo. He once said that he found boarding school to be rather traumatic at the tender age of 8 years; going back there after the holidays was similar to serving a prison sentence! In later years after seeing the film Oliver Twist, he was reminded so much of Milton School, especially the meal time scenes in the film.

His first job was with Rhodesia Railways where he worked from 1948-1953. After that he joined the Bechuanaland Police where he served from 1953 to 1957. This was a very interesting and enjoyable experience, especially when on patrol into the Kalahari Desert. After this stint in the BPP, he returned to Rhodesia to join the Native Department and, later, de Beers Ranch.

In 1961, Charles joined the Federal Army of Rhodesia and Nyasaland and served in the following units:

Rhodesian Light Infantry (he was one of the founder members)

Rhodesian Armoured Car Regiment (also known as the Selous Scouts but was disbanded on the breakup of the Federation)

When Federation ceased to be, he returned to S. Rhodesia from Ndola (N Rhodesia) and continued his service in the Rhodesian army until leaving with the

rank of sergeant in 1971.

His next employer was the African Development Fund where he remained until 1974 when he joined the Geology and Survey Dept. of Union Carbide; remaining with them until he emigrated to South Africa at the end of 1981.

In South Africa, Charles worked with Middleburg Steel and Alloys in the Eastern Transvaal until finally depart-



ing Africa with his family for Australia in 1986.

His final place of employment was at a Nickel mine in Leinster, Western Australia where he remained until retiring to Perth in 1998.

### PATU service

During the bush-war in Rhodesia from 1972 to 1980, he was a member of PATU where he found his previous military experience stood him in good stead.

During his time in the services, Charles was a service rifle-shooting enthusiast and participated in numerous competitions. He made the finals in the Queen's Medal and later the President's Medal on three occasions. In 1962, Charles married Margaret Adele Longhurst who was the daughter of the late Noel and Dora Longhurst of Bulawayo. They had three daughters (Judith, Amanda and Gillian) and six grand children who also live in Perth.

Charles was a committee member of the Australia Branch of the Regimental Association for several years. He passed away in Perth on 9 September 2018 following a brief illness.

# BSAP Regimental Association Australia Branch

The Hon. Secretary  
BSAP Regimental Association [Australia Branch]  
PO Box 1758  
Malaga WA 6944



## Membership application

Name in Full.....  
Date of Birth ..... Occupation .....  
Address (Res.) .....  
.....  
Post Code.....Telephone ( ) .....  
Address (Bus).....  
..... Post Code ..... State ..... Telephone ( ) .....

## Service

Circle that applicable: Regular : Reserve : N/Serv. : Special : Dependant  
RRAF : Army : Prisons : Int.Aff. : Guard Force  
Force No: ..... Date Attested: ..... Date Discharged: .....  
Rank on Discharge: ..... Decorations/Awards: .....  
Marital Status: ..... Maiden Name: ..... Dependants: .....  
Name of Spouse/Next of Kin: ..... Related member's name .....

I hereby apply for FULL / ASSOCIATE Membership of the Australia Branch of the British South Africa Police Regimental Association.

## Payment

I enclose a donation of \$ ..... **Or** make a direct transfer into the Association's Westpac bank account:  
A/C Name: BSAP Regimental Association BSB: 036-001 A/C No.: 459125  
(Please put your name on the narrative so we know who it's from).

Signed: ..... Date: .....

FULL MEMBERSHIP may only be granted to ex-Regular Members of the BSAP and to ex-Police Reservists with a minimum of three years service (Not Special Reservists). ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP with limited voting rights, may be granted to others at the discretion of the Executive Committee. Dependants should provide details of their [ex-Regular Member] parent/guardian. The Executive Committee reserves the right to grant or refuse an application without advising reasons therefore. Members are encouraged to support the activities of the Association by means of voluntary donations where they can.

ALL CHEQUES TO BE MADE PAYABLE TO THE B.S.A.P REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION AND CROSSED, PLEASE.

### FOR COMMITTEE USE ONLY

Approved/Not approved Chairman..... Date.....