THE NATAL OUTPOST
June 2010 | 84th Edition

Magazine of the British South Africa Police
Why don’t you listen to the wife and clean out that old trunk under the bed and turn it into cash. I am looking to buy:-

- BSAP badges including cloth flashes and slip ons
- Books on Rhodesia
- Bits of uniform, kit and equipment

I intend to make a donation to the Association on every purchase made

Contact: Barry Woan on 0834430533 or Ramsgate: 039 3122028

e-mail – woanbrc@tiscali.co.za
IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

The Last Parade

at the

B S A P Memorial

Sunday 25th July 2010

from 12h30 onwards

at the National Memorial Arboretum

Alrewas, Staffordshire, DE13 7AR

Unveiling - General The Lord Walker of Aldringham
Dedication - Rev. Terry Mesley-Spong (4600)

Entry to Arboretum is free – Pay and Display Car parking. Reception will be in our own dedicated Marquee, kindly supplied by Mike Coleman (6737), which will be clearly marked with BSAP Flags.

For the less mobile – Marquee is approx. 300metres from Main Entrance. Memorial is 150metres from Marquee – wheelchairs and/or electric scooter chairs are available. Please contact the Arboretum direct, in advance, if required. There will be seating at the Memorial site.

Dress Order – Badged Blazer if possible (or lounge suit) and Regimental Tie. Medals will be worn.

At the conclusion of Unveiling/Parade the Roll of Honour will be ‘laid up’ in the Arboretum Chapel.

Souvenir Programmes will be available on the day and a DVD of proceedings will be available subsequently.
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2010 - 2011

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Account No.  50800028772
Branch Code  220826

Ref:  Include your name & type of payment
e.g. subs/dinner/donation/sponsor etc.

Please try to avoid making a cash deposit

COVER PHOTO :  A scene well known to all BSAP recruits who trained at the Tomlinson Depot, Montague Avenue, Salisbury, Rhodesia.
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EDITOR'S NOTES

“Computers”. You either like ‘em or you don’t. The term means different things to different people but basically we fall into two categories – the majority (who do) and includes probably 99% of the younger generation and the minority (who don’t) and who represent a similar percentage of the older ones.

The Natal Outpost is now published in two formats – hard copy for those who still prefer this method and electronic, for those who have expressed such preference and also those readers who are not necessarily members of the Natal Branch and reside in other parts.

The following pearls of wisdom are intended for the aforesaid ‘majority’ group, so if you happen to be one of those who does not possess or have access to a personal computer; or has yet to learn how to switch it on; or does not have e-mail; or does not have ADSL (Broadband) then you don’t have to read further and can Fast Forward. Being assured you will not be prejudiced by your choice (insofar as getting your copy of the Natal Outpost is concerned).

My blurb so far is a lead in to a subject that I believe has been one of the best things since sliced bread – the BSAP website – www.bsap.org

The Web Site Administrator, 8646 Andrew Field, in my opinion deserves a medal. His introduction to his brain child appears elsewhere in this edition but I would urge ALL of you qualified to do so and have not yet done so to go and have a look. You should not regret it.

It has much more to offer than can be captured in any Outpost magazine. Whilst each branch of the Association has been allocated its own web page the ‘reader’ can learn much of where many of his former colleagues are today, including photos in some cases.

Which brings me to an important observation? We all know, some from hands on experience, that there are probably hundreds of former colleagues spread around the world who, for reasons best known to themselves, do not choose to be counted by becoming a member of the Association – yet they are prepared to submit their details for publication on said website, often with the comment they would like to
keep in touch with their mates! There are presently just under 1000 former members featured on the internet (938 to be exact – as at beginning April this year) and I would like to bet that a very high proportion of them are NOT members. WHY?

I don’t expect many, if any, answers to that question. I have expressed my views in previous editions of the Outpost but what gets me is that when we locate some of these reluctant heroes (here in Natal as an example) they respond to our initial approach and then “die” (I hope not literally).

Final point on this subject (for now that is) I would urge all 938 of you to re-examine the personal details you initially provided. It is amazing how quickly they can become out of date.

Sponsorship is gradually taking off and our current income tops R1000 – the Committee wishes to thank all of you who have contributed. Of special note is the fact that one particular sponsor donated R300 to cover the cost of setting up and printing the cover page. Whilst such sponsor insists on remaining anonymous I will tell you she is one of our ‘Girls of Natal’. This may have prompted one of our male committee members, Denis Wyatt, to show that the men can also be counted upon and has deposited a similar amount for the cover page of our next Outpost in October. Sincere thanks Denis (and our ‘under cover’ WPO).

The reason for inviting sponsorship is simple – with the spiraling costs of printing and publishing our magazine in hard copy format could well result in fewer and shorter editions. The generous donations we receive from time to time are used to support the financial Reserves intended to help those in need, but those of you who have contributed something extra to support the Outpost are also much appreciated.

Trevor Dutton (td.)

FOOTNOTE: For those of you thinking of venturing into the world of cyberspace don’t be put off by some of the terminology – at times it can be quite easy to understand.
8.

CHAIRMAN’S COMMENT

I thought I had written my last comment as chairman for the Natal Outpost.

However, because of the timing between issues of our magazine and the AGM scheduled for 4th June 2010, when the election of the committee and a new chairman will take place, our editor has suggested I prepare the Chairman’s Comment for this edition.

The good news is that the bulk of the committee has agreed to stand again for re-election. It was hoped that Malcolm Wiltshire could continue to provide his excellent direction on the financial aspects of the Association Funds, but he has not been well and his return to good health will take a while yet. We wish you a speedy recovery Malcolm.

The end of an era! The Shamwari Club in Westville is no longer our base for social gatherings. All the Rhodesian Forces that have used this venue for meetings as well as the display of their regimental memorabilia, including RASA/Flame Lily, have withdrawn.

Our secretary, Des Howse, has commenced the search for a new watering hole and details should be published shortly. The BSAP memorabilia that was on display has been recovered, mostly by those who owned the various items, and the remainder is currently in safe keeping with members of the committee.

The memorabilia displays of the Rhodesian Air Force, Army and SAS will be re-created at the Natal Mounted Rifles (NMR), based in Durban. I received a call from Peter Maunder of the SAS Association, who not only advised that space would be made available at the NMR for a display of our memorabilia, but urged that we continue our wonderful history via a BSAP display.

There will be social gatherings at the NMR, but this is not to say that it would be “our spot” for such gatherings. I would, however, urge the incoming committee to give serious consideration to the NMR for the purpose of the historical display of the BSAP.

*If you can keep your head when all about you are losing theirs, chances are you don’t understand the situation. Why else would ignorance be called bliss?*
A few years ago 7530 Norman Nimmo came to Durban to do a presentation on the Zimbabwe Pensioners Support Fund. This worthy cause has been promoted by our Association ever since. Regular feedback reports have revealed the wonderful work done by the teams that go to Zimbabwe to provide support and relief to folk who have lost virtually everything. Norman called just a few days ago to say that he had become a permanent member of the Support Fund with a responsibility for the fund administration.

He had planned to visit us in Natal in May but as we now know he was tragically killed in a motor accident before he could make the trip. Norman was a fine example of dedication to others and a big loss to all those not only close to him but especially the pensioners of Zimbabwe who had come to depend on him and his organization for survival.

Like you, I am looking forward to the next edition of the Natal Outpost. Paging through the recent editions, the mind is filled with moments, laughs and thoughts of people that made up our wonderful BSAP. Be it about our Mature Members, now in their 90’s and more, including our Bill Crabtree, here in Natal; the ladies of our regiment, the vehicles we rode in, the horses we rode on, our leaders, characters and indeed the profiles of those being part of or linked to the BSAP. However, the editions are there and glancing at them from time to time is, for me, most enjoyable.

In my previous comment I mentioned the World Cup, the excitement thereof and what may follow. May we enjoy being the centre of world attention during the soccer event, enjoy meeting up with former colleagues visiting South Africa.

I had the pleasure, on May 5, 2010, of being present at a talk by Allister Sparks, the author of several books and winner of many awards for his journalistic insight to the events that have changed the history of South Africa. He reminded those present of the worst bit of legislation ever devised in South Africa – The Land Act of 1913. Later legislation, which he described as the Industrial Colour Bar were designed to ensure Black South Africans could not own land nor could they become skilled for work. For many us, who grew up and lived in Rhodesia, we may not have been aware of this type of legislation. His talk, titled, ‘Critical Times’, highlighted serious issues that lay ahead, but he would not leave this
exciting country for anything. May we take each day at a time and continue to be there for one another.

In the last edition, I thanked members of the committee for all their work and support and hereby do say again – to Trevor, Malcolm, Des, Ken, Val and Denis. It was my privilege to be chairman of the Natal Branch and I feel sure the new chairman will feel the same way – with sincere best wishes.

I will also use this opportunity to record my thanks to my wife, Natascha. She has never once complained about the times out with the ‘boys’ and vast ‘away periods’ for sport and indeed work (from the time we were married) and I could not have wished for better support.

_Nobby Clark_

**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING : NATAL BRANCH**

This important event took place at the German-Shamwari Club in Westville, from 6 pm on Friday 4th June 2010. Twenty-four members attended and the following comments are probably noteworthy –

- **Members of the new committee are recorded on page 4. In recognition of his sterling performance out-going Chairman Nobby Clark, was unanimously elected by the Committee an Honorary Member of the Association – a decision ratified by the Meeting.**

- **Malcolm Wiltshire’s premature retirement as Treasurer, due to poor health, results in Des Howse taking over the role for the purpose of running our bank account whilst a professional Financial Advisor will be retained to look after our investments and produce the necessary financial statements.**

- **Cost of annual membership subscriptions will increase to R80 wef 1 March 2011.**

- **To avoid any further increases we will require better sponsorship of the Natal Outpost in order to offset significant rises in printing costs. Alternatively we may have to reduce the number of issues to two, perhaps even one, per year.**

- **Our new ‘watering hole’ is planned for the second Friday of every month, commencing 4.30 pm 9th July 2010, at Better ‘Ole MOTH’S Shellhole, Underwood Rd., Pinetown.**
In our last Outpost (February 2010) I ventured an estimate of 2,500 former members of the BSAP (Regulars, Women and Reserve) still alive and scattered around the world. As no comments or reaction were forthcoming I can only assume no one wishes to discuss the matter because the answer, which is a frequently changing number due to our ever growing Obituary columns, will never be known.

Once brief details of known members in the fifteen branches worldwide are known and published; then adding that total to the number of ex members who have registered on the BSAP website (see separate article in this edition) and allowing for those who are members of one or more branches, we should come closer to getting a feel for the total. This of course can never accommodate the numbers who deliberately hide.
To complete the picture in respect of the 6 Stations of Natal we only need to feature Margate (our largest single Station) and Natal North Coast (still under investigation by Ken MacKay).

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THE BSAP WEBSITE

The BSA Police Regimental website has been functional for many years and has been the ‘hobbyhorse’ of Andrew Field (8646) since its inception. The site was first hosted on Andrew’s personal web server and later moved off shore from Zimbabwe to Canada, where Nigel Edwards, the son of Martin Edwards (5947), offered space for the site. Peter Hirst (7996) had been instrumental in securing the domain name www.bsap.org, which he donated to the Regiment.

This page sponsored by 3708 Bill Crabtree
What was the purpose of the site that Andrew set out to establish? In the simplest terms possible, it was all about networking a very thinly spread group of former policemen around the globe, and placing old comrades in touch with each other. While the Regimental Branch network provided much of this, it was relatively regional, besides which a good number of former members of the BSA Police never joined Branches in their areas, yet yearned for the camaraderie. The internet provided a good platform for this rather unique club of people and internationalised the function.

Andrew works closely with all the Branches and has more recently allocated a page to each Branch to use as its internet ‘front window’. This is a potentially huge draw on former members who would like a little more than ‘cyber-relationships’ with former colleagues. More recently, social networking has become a global phenomena and a number of former members have set up groups within social networks, such as Facebook, for ex members and their families. These networks are fast becoming a platform for both former regulars and reservists to communicate through.

Over the years, the web site administrator, has maintained a detailed database of former members and their present whereabouts, and has placed many ‘long lost’ former colleagues and friends in touch with each other. The site has been the conduit to a number of discussion groups, four of which have been active for years.

This page sponsored by 5087 Robin Johnson
More importantly the site delivers current information about former members, through current news pages, and a good bit of nostalgia for those who care to visit. Former members of the force can get listed on the website, with their contact details and portraits (then and now). Incorporated in the site are a photo gallery and history pages. Sadly, the site also lists all those members we know of, who have passed away since 1980 and of course the ‘official’ Roll of Honour (which has been carried in the book, Blue and Old Gold).

Anyone can visit the site, browse through the various sections and enjoy the memories. Andrew would encourage former members to register themselves on the database and stay in touch with their former colleagues. He also makes an appeal for those who have been listed on the site to keep their contact details current. Input of previously unpublished images, or new ideas which will generate yet further companionship amongst former members remain welcome.

Wife: ‘What are you doing?’ Husband: Nothing. Wife: ‘Nothing…? You’ve been reading our marriage certificate for an hour.’ Husband: ‘I was looking for the expiry date.’

THE OUTPOST : VOLUME 1 - NO. 1

We continue with our publication of this rather unique collector’s item, by courtesy of Robin Johnson who discovered, what has now become a rare manuscript, in his late father’s possessions. So far we have re-called the cover and four pages of advertisements and now print the original “Editor’s Notes” –
In presenting you with the first number of The Outpost we hope you will not hesitate to let us know whether you like it or not, and point out any improvements you think might be made, for although we await with some trepidation the storm of criticism that will inevitably break upon our devoted heads, it is by that that we can gauge the requirements of our readers. We only hope that members of the Corps find enough satisfaction in their paper to give it their whole-hearted support in the future.

It is disappointing to relate that the blocks of a number of excellent pictures with which we hoped to illustrate our opening number have been sent via Beira instead of via the Cape, and in consequence will not be here in time to insert in this issue, although they will of course be available to brighten later ones. Our thanks are due again to our contemporary, The Nongqai, for the game photographs we publish. If The Outpost obtains the support we hope, there is no doubt that equally excellent photographs by members of the Corps will be published in the near future.

A copy of this number is being sent to all the Police forces of the Empire—the Hong Kong and Shanghai, the Canadian North-West Mounted, the Metropolitan and others—and by this means we hope to get in touch with any periodicals they may publish, and exchange articles, photographs, etc., which may be of interest to our readers.

Lient.-Col. Sir John Robert Chancellor, K.C.M.G., C.M.G., D.S.O., R.E., whose portrait we publish on our frontispiece, is to be Rhodesia's first Governor. He has had a distinguished military and administrative career, serving in the Dongola Expedition in 1896, the Tifrah Expedition, 1897-98, was present at the capture of the Dargai Heights, and took part in other frontier campaigns. In 1911 he was appointed Governor and Commander-in-Chief for the Colony of Mauritius, and in 1915 to a similar position in Trinidad and Tobago, where he remained until 1921.

Comrades' Magazine.—It is with pleasure that we accede to the request of the editor of the above magazine and bring it to the notice of members of this Corps. It is an excellent little monthly periodical, devoted to the interests of the Comrades of the Great War, and containing many interesting articles and sketches. Address: 14, Exploration Buildings, Johannesburg.
We do not want any correspondence, please, about the faults of the horseman on the cover. Having stared at it for two hours, and then passed it for the printer, the proofs confronted us with two errors, one of them—but can you see them? If you succeed, point them out to a non-subscriber and gain a reputation for perspicacity, but spare us, we beg.

"Batzeat's" lion stories, if hair-raising, are very much the type of contribution we desire, that is, accounts of interesting experiences. "Fact is"—but we will not quote that again, but you will see our point when you read his yarn, and then sit down to tell us how you shot that guinea fowl.

Congratulations to S/M. Bartter, Sgt. Nash and Cpl. Palmer on their promotion.

The Calcutta Sweepstake.—This world-famed sweep was won this year by an ex-member of the B.S.A. Police, Captain Anthony Poole, who is at present in Zanzibar. The prize amounted to £60,000. Many members will remember Tony Poole, who joined up in the early part of 1914, and was at Wankie for some time, afterwards leaving with the R.N.R. for German East. His father, formerly of the 10th Hussars, is one of the military knights of Windsor Castle.

An Examination Paper.—The current issue of the Rhodesia Defence Force Journal contains an interesting set of questions which it is alleged were set in the recent examination held in Depot (wherever that is) of candidates desiring promotion from Sergeant to Sergeant-Major. I say "alleged" firstly because it is a jovial journal which I opine to be not above pulling the civvy's leg, and secondly because I can hardly credit that a policeman can be called upon to assimilate the vast store of miscellaneous and special knowledge implied by this paper. I recommend every civilian to procure a copy of the journal, peruse the questions, and join with me in congratulating Sergeants Simonds, Bartter, Breeden and Baker upon their wonderful success in passing so searching an inquisition. It must be nothing less than "a bally honour to be arrested by one of these peripatetic brain-pans in uniform."

The above extract appeared in The Independent of 6th July above the signature of one "George Washington." Needless to say, we deprecate "George's" busies aspersions, but some of his answers to the questions set are amusing enough. Here is one of them:—

M.R.T.: "Give a specimen of three different kinds of fire orders."

Answer: 1. "Fira!"
2. "Up, boys, and at 'em!"
3. "The Game's afoot."

Follow our spirit, and upon this charge, Cry, 'God for Harry,' England, and—George Washington.

Rudyard Kipling in a letter to the Editor wishes The Outpost every success, and regrets that owing to illness last winter his work is very much in arrears, and he cannot therefore associate himself with our new venture, as we very much hoped he would be able to do.

Last mail brought the pictures we wanted from England, and in this issue will be found "The Charge of the 21st Lancers at Omdurman." There are many others of a similar nature available for issue in subsequent numbers of The Outpost.
There were also just two Obituaries (how times have changed!)

_OBITUARY._

It is with deep sorrow that we have to record the death of Sub-Inspector Charles Edmund James McGinnis at Salisbury Hospital on the 30th of June.

S/I. McGinnis joined the Corps in 1908 and rose to the rank of sergeant in 1912. During the war he transferred to the R.N.R. as A/Quartermaster, with the rank of Inspector, and received a temporary commission when he went to East Africa in the same year. He returned in 1918, and, relinquishing his commission, resumed the rank of Sub-Inspector in the B.S.A. Police.

Our sympathy goes out to his wife and two children.

It is with great sorrow that we learn of the death of Trooper Geoffrey Manwaring Noakes from blackwater fever at Melsetter on the 22nd June last. He joined the Corps in 1921, after making a remarkable trek on foot from Nyasaland, and was transferred to Umtali district in the same year.

**BSAP MATURE MEMBERS CLUB**

Membership of this unique body has risen to sixteen, the latest four being -

(3497) Beryl Castle-Ward (widow of Bill) - Bulawayo

3676 John Hamilton – Johannesburg

3801 ‘Coot’ Atkinson - Johannesburg

(3857) Doreen Everitt (widow of ‘Jack’) – Bulawayo.

Of these new members we have only received details in time for this Outpost for Coot Atkinson.
In our next Outpost we will publish (hopefully) an updated list of all sixteen, with the special request that should any reader live close to or have any contact with these elderly statesmen (and women) would they kindly download and print a copy of just the ‘BSAP MATURE MEMBERS CLUB’ and pass it on to them.

3801 Philip Whitbread ‘Coot’ Atkinson was born in Dorking, England, on 22 November 1919. He joined the BSAP in 1939 and served in the equestrian section, training remounts and also as a farrier.

He excelled in most sports and played for all the sporting teams, e.g. rugby, soccer, hockey, and was the half and one mile athletic champion. He won the Rhodesian welter-weight boxing championship and was Victor Ludorum at the end of his recruitment.

After leaving the police in 1945 he went into farming in the Palm Block/Centenary district until 1975, when, having had two farms commandeered, sold the remaining home farm and moved to a small-holding outside Harare. As well as keeping cattle, he served as Sales Supervisor for the Tobacco Marketing Board on the Tobacco Floors, and then, in 1983, decided to leave Zimbabwe and settle in Johannesburg. Here he was employed as Estate Manager at St Peter’s Preparatory School for ten years and is now living out his “golden years” in very good health, having celebrated his 90th birthday in November 2009, when his four great grandchildren sang “Happy Birthday” to him in Zulu!
The Cover picture on our last Natal Outpost (February 2010 : issue No. 83) featured BSA Police Dog No 211 Leon. Leon was no ordinary police dog (if there could ever be such a thing) and the unusual story of his experiences whilst serving in the BSAP caught the interest of Neil Lursson of The Star's Africa News Service, resulting in a special article which featured in the Johannesburg Star on May 24, 1969.

"The story of Leon, the police dog, starts on August 23, 1967 - an oppressively hot and tense day in the Tjolotjo area of northern Matabeleland. On this day Rhodesian security forces in the area were closing in on heavily armed terrorists who had crossed Rhodesia's northern border.

Two police dogs and their handlers were detailed to lead a small army patrol in search of the enemy. Leon, an Alsatian not yet two years old, was one of the dogs and his handler, 7009 Constable Spencer Thomas."
The pursuit team followed the dogs through the tall brown grass of ideal guerilla country.

The police detail leading the patrol took the full force of the terrorist fire when it came. Constable Thomas, just 23 years old, was killed instantly and his fellow dog handler wounded – his dog also killed in the hail of bullets.

During the skirmish Leon disappeared, without anyone knowing whether the young dog had fled in panic or had also been killed. Following the mop-up there was no sign of the big black and tan Alsatian – Police Dog 211 Leon was posted as missing – presumed dead.

More than a month later reports came in about an Alsatian dog seen hanging around the Pumula Mission Station, some 40 miles from the scene of the fire fight. It seemed the dog would not allow anyone to approach him. Two dog handlers were sent from Bulawayo and located the animal who was soon identified as Leon. Supt. Ron Gardiner, of Police HQ, reported "The dog was thin, nervous and in poor condition." But Leon refused to come to his finders.

Six weeks after he had disappeared Leon was caught in a cage baited with meat and milk. The decision then had to be made whether it was worth retaining this scruffy, tick-bitten animal – would it be worth the time and effort required to try and restore the former police dog?

The answer was affirmative – and Garth "Butch" von Horsten enters the scene.
Here we quote the story-teller verbatim - "Butch von Horsten is a big, bluff, genial cop who has been a regular choice as front row forward in Rhodesia’s national rugby team for several seasons. South African born Butch is a tiger on the rugby field, as the touring French found when he rattled them by scoring a first half try for Rhodesia two years ago - the first try scored against them during the tour.

But no man is gentler when it comes to dogs. Section Officer von Horsten was given the task of making Leon an effective patrol dog again.

Butch immediately warmed to the animal. Leon, he recalls, had a character of his own, quite different from the dogs he had handled in the past. Gradually he nursed Leon back to 80 lbs of fighting trim. Festering sores from tick bites, some as big as a man’s fist, were healed and his coat was groomed back to its original sheen.

Leon responded to balanced meals of meat, milk and protein enriched food. The essential bond of affection between dog and handler developed.

Rhodesian police dogs are one-man dogs. Although members of the Dog Unit can handle each other’s dogs if necessary, the bond which makes man and dog a really efficient unit cannot be shared.

Leon had been Spencer Thomas’s dog, had learned to respond to his touch, his voice, his moods, his affection. Butch had to replace the dead man.
It takes about six months to train a police dog. Leon was back in form a month after his ordeal. If there were any lingering doubts about the dog’s courage they were not shared by Butch von Horsten - “In my respects, Leon is still a puppy at heart - but I knew I had a dog who was game for anything” he says.

Leon’s spirit was to be severely tested again............to be continued
WOMEN POLICE

In a recent edition of the Natal Outpost we published a feature on The Girls of Natal which involved thirteen former WPOs identified as resident or based in Natal.

Since then we have located four more in this area and hope to be able to get some of them at least to join the party and provide photos etc.

WPO 073  Shirley Ann Hodson (now Swift)  
joined on  3 Dec 1962.

WPO180  Mariette van Heerden (now Meakum) ( photo on left) - served from 28 Jan 1972 to 2 June 1983 ;

WPO 303 Jacqui Short – served from Nov 1975 to April 1980

WPO565 Shireen Otto (now van den Berg)

This little exercise now raises the question – how many regular WPOs remain worldwide? Considering there were only 603 overall (since inception in 1947) you would believe there can’t be that many left today, but there are actually at least 100 that we currently know about (and if the trend with the ladies is the same as that of the men there are very likely quite a few more?).

Thanks once again to Andrew Field who has provided details of those WPOs who have registered on www.bsap.org which enables us to identify the ‘100’. But quite a few of these former colleagues are not members of any Branch of the Association so the total of 100 is obviously higher if we include all the members of the various branches.

This page sponsored by 5087 Robin Johnson
25.
The first lady policeman in the BSAP was WPO 1 Yvonne Roux, who served from 11 July 1947 to 27 November 1953.

It may be of interest to publish brief details of our global WPOs, probably a country at a time. Hereunder we can advise, from Andrew’s data and our own local knowledge in Natal, that the South African contingent totals 43. Perhaps our indigenous Branch Secretaries would be kind enough to submit details of their own lady members who do not appear on this list to Andrew@field.co.zw and copied to myself please?

Also of course any additional information from our readers would be welcomed.

**BSA WOMEN POLICE IN SOUTH AFRICA**

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<tr>
<th>Reg.No.</th>
<th>Surname</th>
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<td>Nortje</td>
<td>Nell</td>
<td>Carolyn Ann</td>
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**Dog For Sale**

Free to good home. Excellent guard dog. Owner cannot afford to feed him anymore, as there are no more drug pushers, thieves, murderers, or molesters left in the neighbourhood for him to eat. Most of them knew Jethro only by his Oriental street name, **Ho Lee Schitt**
**STATION NOTES**

**MARGATE** : The late Dave Callow reported a Bring & Braai event was held at the Ramsgate Bowling Club on Saturday 13 March 2010, with a good turn out of 40. Guests included former members of the SAP and three RLI who had heard how popular these get-togethers are.

A BSAP flag atop the appropriate pole properly identified the occasion.

6785 Roger and Marie Brownlow had put together a photographic collage, depicting many functions of the BSAP, which they donated to the Margate Station. It was noted that the generosity of local members, including raffles and auctions, has produced over R5000 this year alone towards Association funds.

**MARGATE SNIPPETS** : Barry Woan reports two further interesting stories from on the South Coast –

1. Contact has been made with a local resident named Garth Philpott, who turns out to be the son of Horace Bartlett Philpott – BSAP cadet No. 105 (1935), later 3486 Trooper Philpott – who served from June 1935 to July 1938. On transfer then to the NRP, ending up as the Asst. Deputy Commissioner in 1959.

Horace will be better known to all of us as the co-founder of Philpott & Collins, stationers and lesser known as a founder member of the Bulawayo Chronicle.

2. At our recent gathering of the clan we were privileged to have amongst us several ex members of the Rhodesian Army and SAP. One such fellow was ex Sergeant Keith Bartlett MFC who served as a Sergeant with the RLI. Keith brought along with him a BSAP Best Shot Trophy awarded in 1949 to his father 4032 Trooper William Henry Bartlett. Trooper Bartlett served mainly in the
Lomugundi area from 11/6/1946 to 7/1/1951. William, who apart from being an excellent shot, played rugby for his District and was lucky to have a game against the All Blacks in 1949 in a mid week fixture!

**HILLCREST**

Dave and Maddie Lynn arranged a little get together of former police colleagues at their Kloof home during April.

The excuse for this gathering was the visit from Canada of 7081 Farris Jaboor and his wife WP 115 Bev (nee Bayley) where they have been resident for the past 25 years.

Also present were WP 303 Jacqui Short (niece of Farris) who is based in Durban but apparently spends most of her time swanning around the world on a cruise ship, taking people’s money (she is a croupier). Then 6136 Ant Crossley (a member of Hillcrest Station but rarely seen at any of our social functions). Ant and Bev were stationed together at one time at Salisbury Traffic before Bev saw the light and joined CID.

A ‘Bring & Braai’ gathering at the Augusta Club in Hillcrest on Sunday 23 May 2010 attracted 27 visitors – photos from this event are on the back cover page.
OBITUARIES

4332 Peter Charles Short PMM passed away in the UK on 29 November 2009. He served from 1948 to 1973, retiring with the rank of Chief Superintendent. He was an Honorary Life member of the UK Branch and had served as Hon. Secretary from 1974 to 1982. Peter’s wife, Joan, died the same day.

PR Leonard Charles Howe MC died at his home in Bulawayo on 3rd January 2010. He was an active member of the BSA Police Reserve from 1954 to 1965, serving as the CO of the Police Reserve Reconnaissance Unit. Len featured in our Mature Members Club (Feb 2010 edition).

4037 Bernard Edward Cavey died on 30 January 2010 at a Nursing Home near Newcastle-on-Tyne in the UK following a battle with Alzheimer’s disease. He joined the force in 1946 and served until 1969, when he retired as a Chief Inspector.

5879 David Graham Stow passed away on 31 January 2010 in St George’s Hospital, Port Elizabeth. He served from 1958 to 1978, retiring as an Inspector. He was a member of the Eastern Cape Branch of the Association.

(4805) Fay Marshall died on 6th March 2010 in Pietermaritzburg, after suffering for many years with cancer. She was the widow of Chief Inspector Dennis Marshall.

7066P Philip Percy Palmer MLM, MSM, PRLSM died at his home in Kloof, Natal, on 10 March 2010, as the result of a fall. He was the commander of the Police Reserve Air Wing from 1975 and 1980 and when not responding to his call sign “Copper One” he was the Director of Civil Aviation in Rhodesia.
4638 Andrew Patrick ‘Andy’ Armstrong died on 21 March 2010. He served from 1950 to 1953, leaving as a Constable and was a member of the Natal Midlands branch of the Association.

4250 Ian Andrew Edward Dixon died in Hillcrest, Natal, on 27 March 2010, following a recent stroke. He served from 1948 to 1954, leaving as a D/Sgt. He was not a member of the Association.

Denise Miller, wife of 6759 John Miller, passed away in Pietermaritzburg on Sunday the 4th of April 2010 after a long and courageous battle. John is a member of the Natal Midlands Branch of the Association.

FR 13355 Gerald Charles Vaughan Spanton died on 25 April 2010 at Henneman, South Africa, following a period of ill health. Following many years service in the BSAP Field Reserve in the Gwelo area Gerald was awarded the Medal for Meritorious Service. He was a member of the Transvaal Branch.

4307 Timothy James ‘Jimmy’ Collins DFM, PMM passed away on 26 April 2010 at his home in Howick, Natal. He served from 1948 to 1978, retiring in the rank of Assistant Commissioner – his last appointment being OC BSAP Support Unit. He was not a member of the Association.

3921 William Anderson ‘Bill’ Earle died on 1 May 2010 at Cirencester, UK. Well known for his equestrian prowess Bill served from 1946 to 1966, retiring in the rank of Staff Inspector. A former Chairman of the Western Cape Branch he was a member of the UK Branch at the time of his death.
31.

7530 Norman Peter Nimmo was killed in a motor vehicle accident near Nelspruit on 3 May 2010. Norman served from 1966 to 1978, retiring as an Inspector. He was the son of the late 3335 Chief Inspector Andrew Norman Nimmo

In recent years he was totally and completely committed as a full time member and leader of the Zimbabwe Pensioners Support Fund, formed to ease the plight of the Zimbabwe pensioners

4642 David Ranleigh Hounsfield died as the result of cancer on 7 May 2010 at Port Elizabeth. He served from 1950 to 1962, leaving as a Staff Sergeant. He was not a member of the Association.

3531 James ‘Jim’ Desmond Dooge Cave died on 15 May 2010 at Kingston, Surrey – seven days after his 96th birthday. Jim served from Jan 1936 to Dec 1939 and featured in our previous Natal Outpost as a member of the BSAP Mature Member’s Club (for the over 90s).

10317 Michael William Taylor died in Johannesburg on 26 May 2010. He had served in the BSAP from Jan 1978 to Jan 1981

8165/8856 Stephen Geoffrey ‘Geoff’ Lloyd passed away in Johannesburg on 1 June 2010, following a brief but valiant battle with cancer. Geoff served initially for 3 years from Jan 1969 to Jan 1972, then re-attested in Sep 1972 before retiring in the rank of Inspector in May 1980

6468 David ‘Dave’ Callow died from cancer on 2nd June 2010 at the Port Shepstone Hospice. He served from August 1961 until May 1982, retiring as a Chief Inspector. But he will probably best be remembered by those who knew him in Natal as one of the leading lights behind the formation of a very successful Margate Station.

This page sponsored by Hilary Squires
The above photograph, which spreads across both pages, portrays the Officers, Members-in-Charge, Inspectors and HQ staff stationed in Mashonaland Province as at 6 December 1973.

Whilst many of the characters should be easily recognized can you identify eight of them who are currently members of the Natal Branch of the Association?

*Girl*: ‘When we get married, I want to share all your worries, troubles and lighten your burden.’  
*Boy*: ‘It’s very kind of you, darling, but I don’t have any worries or troubles.’  
*Girl*: ‘Well that’s because we aren’t married yet.’
To assist those who may need help (hopefully not any of the eight in question) they are, in alphabetical order –

Bryson, ‘Brick’
Hamilton, Rob
Isemonger, ‘Dick’
Parker, Jac
Shewell, Paul
Taylor, Mike
Tomlinson, Peter
Torrence, Malcolm
NATAL PROFILE :- 4540 Maurice Hambley Beaver.

Maurice was born in Bradford, then a city in the centre of the woollen industry in the West Riding of Yorkshire, England on 23 September 1929.
Due to the economic climate at that time, especially in the northern counties of England, his family could only be described as ‘not well off’. His father died when Maurice was only 9 years old, leaving his mother to look after three small children (Maurice and two sisters) on a pension of 21 shillings a week, supplemented by the wages she earned as a shop assistant.

In spite of hardships Mrs Beaver managed to ensure all three siblings received a high school education.

In 1943 at the age of 13 Maurice decided that he might try a life in uniform and although too young to participate in World War 2 he joined the Sea Cadets and trained in seamanship and as a Radio Operator/Signaller, his intention being to join the Royal Navy when old enough. However, the war ended before his ambition could be achieved.

Leaving school at the age of 16 Maurice was now undecided what career to pursue. He had vague ideas of becoming a journalist and attended night school to study shorthand and typing, whilst holding down an office job. But in 1947 a decision was made for him by His Majesty’s government – he was called up for National Service in the British Army.
Following basic infantry training he was posted to the Royal Corps of Signals where he became an OWL – ‘Operator – Wireless and Line’, ending up as a Sergeant Instructor.

After serving the required 2 years in the Army Maurice was asked by his CO what he intended doing on demobilisation and suggested he might try the “Rhodesian Police” – a force he knew about because at the end of World War 2 the troops serving in India were offered early release if they joined the police in Southern Rhodesia.

So a decision was made and on 29 December 1949 Maurice sailed from London’s Tilbury Docks on the “Durban Castle”, sharing a cabin with soon-to-be squadmates Alan Rich and Gerry Dunn. A fellow passenger on the ship as far as Madeira caused a bit of excitement – Sir Winston Churchill, to be awarded the freedom of the island.

Attesting on 17 January 1950 Maurice’s police career began in Squad 2/1950.

Colonel Basil Spurling was then Commandant, Depot; Depot Chief Inspector was ‘Ginger’ Lardant; Sgt. Stan Edwards the Law & Police Instructor; and guess who was Maurice’s Equitation Instructor – you got it, our very own Smudge Smith.

After 3 months training in Depot Maurice was posted to Umtali Urban, where the province was under the command of Major Charles Thatcher, assisted by Capt Sam Brewer.
On his first long leave home after three years service Maurice met and married Audrey Dunn at St Mary’s Church, Wyke, Yorkshire, on 10th October 1953. They subsequently had two children, Ann Jane (born 6 Jan 1955) and Richard John (born 23 May 1956 – who is now married, living in Brisbane, Australia, with twin sons both at university.)

On return from leave Maurice and his bride remained in Manicaland Province for a further four years.

Guard of Honour for a military funeral

L to R: “Ginger” Kirkwood; Reg Vincent; Trevor Walton; Peter Stannard; Maurice Beaver; Terry Thorpe
Maurice served in the BSA Police for 21 years, serving in four of the five provinces and rising steadily through the ranks to Superintendent in 1967. There is little doubt he could have gone much higher had he stayed in the Force but a dramatic change to his career path occurred in 1971.

The previous year he had been appointed Staff Officer (Traffic & Transport), stationed at PGHQ. In this role he attended a conference in Windhoek of the Institute of Traffic Officers where he met the recently appointed Chief Constable of the Durban City Police, Colonel Vic Jearey. They obviously clicked because Col. Jearey invited Maurice to apply for the post of Deputy Chief Constable, which he did, and got.

This all came about due to the recent dismissal, in disgrace, of the previous Chief Constable which also resulted in the DCC being demoted. Col. Jearey, being an ex-Army man, obviously felt vulnerable running a police force and was looking for a suitable ex policeman to assist him in getting the Durban scene back on track.

So Deputy Chief Constable Maurice Beaver commenced duty on 8 July, 1971.

He served for a total of 21 years (the identical period he had been employed in the BSAP), retiring in 1992. In 1981 he had been appointed Chief Constable of Durban City Police, with 6434 Alf Taylor assisting him in the role of his Deputy.
Alf became the CC after Maurice’s retirement but apparently did not enjoy the same relatively easy passage as his predecessor due to the major political changes in South Africa in 1994.

If Alf Taylor, now resident in Perth, Scotland, ever gets to read this feature on his former boss perhaps he would like to write a few words to us? …(td)

In closing Maurice has a few words to say about the police force which attracted him away from the BSAP.

These two Zulu African Constables were not quite those that Maurice controlled when he was appointed - the photo was taken in 1892!

The force was formed in 1854 as the Durban Borough Police, with full and exclusive “police powers”.

It retained its independence, in spite of the Union Police Act of 1912 which established the SAP – a provision being made for such independence to remain unless the Borough Council consented to its incorporation in the SAP. This never happened and today the Durban City Police is incorporated in the Ethekwini Metro Police.

Due to Maurice’s influence a book was published in 1989 entitled “A History of the Durban City Police.”
Written by Jack Jewell, Rector of Sydenham, this hard-backed publication makes an interesting read, but I would like to repeat the publisher’s introduction –

“The maintenance of peace and order is fundamental to the stability and prosperity of any community. Durban, in its early Colonial days, recognized the need for a police force to cope with its growing population and it was in 1854 that the Durban City Police Force was established.

Times have changed since those first members of the Force swore to uphold the laws of Natal and went about their duties in the dusty streets of Durban. Over the past century and a half many colourful personalities have emerged and the Force has weathered the vicissitudes of Durban’s turbulent history with distinction. This book paints a colourful portrait of the role that the Durban City Police Force has played in the life and growth of one of South Africa’s major cities.”

Maurice Beaver, now aged 80, lives with his invalid wife and daughter in The Village of Happiness, a retirement centre in Margate, Natal. He is a mild and unassuming character and when we approached him to feature as our next Natal Profile he was reluctant at first, saying his life and experiences would not make interesting reading. For someone who wore one uniform or another for almost 50 years - what do you think?

Some sage (probably William Shakespeare) once said “The pen is mightier than the sword”. I think if I were faced with having to take part in a duel I’d choose the sword.
LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

In our last Outpost we noted “A Member of Parliament to Disraeli: “Sir, you will either die on the gallows or of some unspeakable disease.........”

PR 9465 Hilary Squires writes to advise that this famous insult was actually made by the Earl of Sandwich to Richard Sheridan, playwright as well as a Member of Parliament. Furthermore the taunter used the words “the pox” and not “unspeakable disease” and it was Sheridan who responded with “That depends, sir, on whether I embrace your policies or your mistress.”

But, going back to the famous Benjamin Disraeli, Hilary further explains – “‘A sophisticated rhetorician, intoxicated by the exuberance of his own verbosity, and gifted with an interminable series of inconsistent and contradictory arguments, designed to glorify himself and calumniate his opponents.’

This statement was made by Disraeli when addressing a political meeting during a general election in late 19th century Britain, and taking aim at his Parliamentary opponent and opposite number, W.E. Gladstone; asking his audience which they would prefer – “a solid, sound, tried and trusted political party” - like the Tories, or Gladstone’s Liberal Party, led by a person of that impressive description.

I think Disraeli’s party got the nod on this occasion, but each party won two, or even three, such elections in turn. An era of real democracy, driven by able, public spirited and selfless people, unlike today.”

Hilary’s letter is well timed in view of the latest political developments in the UK.....(td.)

3708 Bill Crabtree writes. “.......The following comments on various items appearing in the last Natal Outpost may be of interest......

BSAP MATURE MEMBERS CLUB (p.17) - I knew all the members of the regular force mentioned therein (with the exception of 3004 Neil Arden), including my old friend Alan Godwin who unfortunately missed your ‘dead-line’. I’m sure there will be other members waiting to be admitted to the ‘Club’.
JOCK SIMPSON (p.30) – Jock was Depot Provost when I was a recruit in 1938. I well remember his many performances on ‘Cromwell’ at the annual BSAP Display and at the Mashonaland Agricultural Show. To see him slowly canter up to each jump before clearing it in a magnificent manner was amazing. He won many trophies.

SOMETHING OF A MYSTERY (p.39) – As a recruit in Depot I marched at the funeral of a Corporal Welby who unfortunately died as a result of a shooting accident in Bindura. The officer’s charger was RH Turpin who was decorated in a similar manner as the horse in your photo. From the photo of his handler I am inclined to believe it was Danny Greengrass whom I knew in the CID when he was a Detective Chief Inspector.

(this view is also shared by Nigel Seaward so it seems we can, for now, safely assume the character in question was indeed 2117 David Harold Greengrass, who served from 1923 to 1948 and retired as a DCI….td.)

LETTER FROM WP 71 LOUISE FORD (p.44) – I can confirm Louise’s belief that it was indeed Percy Hawdon in the photograph in question. He was well known to me in 1938, when I was a recruit he was acting as a part time Law Instructor. I also met him again in later years when he was working for the Bindura Municipality.

PHOTOGRAPHIC ECHOES OF THE PAST (p.47) – ‘Bomber’ Davidson, a well liked member of the CID in Salisbury, often performed the ‘Muffin Man’ at various functions (where much beer was usually imbibed) and in fact on one occasion we persuaded him to do the trick on a bicycle....”

4711 Brian Chalk writes –

“Hi Trevor - pse give my very best wishes to old colleagues and friends living in Natal and in particular to Bill Crabtree. My brother in law Kit Holt lives at Himeville and have fond memories of the Sani Pass Hotel Cheers old son and stay well - Brian”

Wife : “ Do you want dinner?” Husband : “What are my choices?” Wife : “Yes or No”
This is a sort of memoir of a visit to Antarctica that was made in January 2009. It is not voluntarily recorded and is only produced because of the sustained agitation emanating from the editor of this magazine and who thinks, amazingly, that it may be of interest to anyone else so minded. If the readership is anything like me, the prospect of a lengthy journey by air and then by sea, to endless vistas of snow and ice, is not all that enticing. But borne along on the exuberant current of my wife’s inexplicable desire to see odd parts of the globe, and the prospect of going on such an odyssey with another Durban couple – good friends of long standing – one could not really refuse.

So off we set on 29th December 2008 to Cape Town. That was Stage I. Overnight in Cape Town to catch a flight to Buenos Aires. The flight to Argentina was the first indication that the whole caper may not be as bad as I feared because we were able to fly by Air Malaysia, which is capable of producing air travel pretty much on a par with Air Singapore, which repeatedly wins the prize for the best airline in the business. It was not immediately clear to me why a South East Asian airline would be flying a link between Africa and South America, but the answer was evident from the return flight at the end of the journey when the aircraft was pretty
full with returning Malaysian passengers who, we were told, had been working in Buenos Aires!

But not only did we fly to BA on a “special” business class, but we were the only passengers so doing – which meant plenty of undivided attention from the air hostesses, who were as charming as they were competent. So it was a good start.

But things went downhill from there. Buenos Aires was a considerable disappointment. It got off to a bad beginning at the allegedly 4-star hotel into which our Westville travel agents had booked us. This place claimed it had only a reservation for one couple, and while the other couple could stay one night because there happened to be a vacant room, after that they’d have to leave and make other arrangements. Since it was New Year’s Eve and appropriate celebrations would be taking place, booking for a replacement hotel with equivalent accommodation looked like a serious potential problem. It would not have been so bad if the two most uncooperative hotel reception desk staff had been bit helpful, but it was “your problem”; and that was their only contribution to solving the crisis for a cock-up that turned out to be entirely the fault of the hotel. In the end after much stress, many e-mails and drama, we both spent our entire stay there. Since their English was even less fluent than my Spanish, one couldn’t even swear at them! The city outside did nothing to improve matters. The streets were even more littered with rubbish than are Durban’s, the result, we were told, of all the municipal street cleaners enjoying a long weekend break and the habit of the residents of throwing paper into the streets to celebrate the New Year. So we were really quite glad to leave the place.

The travel arrangements required a flight from B.A. southwards to the point of departure for the sea voyage. This required a departure time at about 2.30 a.m. but we all managed this – surprisingly – in good order and landed eventually at a place called Ushuaia, a port on the Beagle Channel, right at the tip of the continent. We had the best part of the day to visit such attractions as this place boasted before boarding the ship. The one such “attraction” was a prison, now disused as such, but kept as a tourist curiosity, its main interest being that it was built by the original inmates, who had been shipped off from B.A. by a far sighted government to this remote outpost and told to build their own goal.
As can be imagined, there was a powerful incentive to make it as comfortable as possible, and from what one could see of the cells, they were certainly more roomy and spacious than what one saw in Bulawayo Central or even at Chikurubi or Khami. How the rest of the regime compared, was anyone’s guess, but I doubt it was as good as ours.

Another attraction for those interested in the local wildlife, was a bus ride to Tierra del Feugo National Park with the chance to see a particular bird, the “Magellanic Woodpecker”. This creature, we were told, was fairly rare, but a large and most spectacularly feathered bird, with a brilliant scarlet head and was a sort of ornithologist’s ‘lifer’. At the forest in question, we had quite a pleasant lunch as I recall – but saw no sign of any woodpecker, although some of the party claimed to have seen one flashing through the trees. However, it didn’t matter, because later in the trip at another National Park in Patagonia, we were able to see a pair right in front of us while enjoying breakfast. It certainly was an eye-catching sight but I wouldn’t rate it as a tourist attraction. The crimson breasted bush shrike of Matabeleland is just as impressively striking in appearance.
Later that afternoon, we were allowed to board the voyage ship, “Le Diamant”. As the name suggests, it is a French vessel hired for the expedition by the tour organizers, Zegram, who are, or which is, an American concern based in Seattle. While there were employees of the tour company on board to organize and direct the terrestrial activities, the crew – and especially the chefs and dining room staff – were French, or French colonial, because some of the kitchen, deck and cabin stewards, were plainly oriental – I would imagine Vietnamese. The chefs being French meant we ate very well, with wine being included in every lunch and evening meal. Distinctly a plus feature of the voyage.
Of interest was the fact that the Expedition Leader was a South African lady - JD Massyn – who excelled in her position and was a great credit to South Africa. Not only did she organize the running of the shore expeditions but also she, in person, was on shore to help land the zodiacs. That the wheels ran so smoothly was largely, if not entirely, due to her unsung back stage work. She had been on the ill fated cruise liner Oceanos which sank off the Transkei cost and described how it was the help of such people as the dining room and entertainment staff which made it possible to take all passengers off the ship before it sank. The captain and crew left ‘early’!

Apart from a few Poms and ourselves, the passengers were American and predominantly old boys – and old girls – of Stanford University in San Francisco. The old student union of that establishment apparently takes a block booking on this sort of jolly, and this was one such excursion. For the most part those that we met or wound up sitting next to for whatever function, seemed to be normally decent people but generally speaking very well heeled.

The voyage from Ushuaia went North East to the Falkland Islands. Nothing much of interest there save its geology. The rocks on these Islands are of the same type as Table Mountain Sandstone which shows that they were indeed part of South Africa many years ago before peregrinating across the South Atlantic at the break up of Gondwanaland. After the military punch up between Argentina and Britain in the early 1980’s, it was discovered that oil is to be found off the shore of these islands. One would presume that Britain would make every effort to keep control in this region! The Falklands Government also does very well on lucrative fishing licence fees paid by foreign trawlers fishing the Island waters

We made two stops at this location seeing the first of about ten million penguins.
One exception being the Emperor penguin which is the largest of them all, but which breeds much further inland than areas visited by us. These birds travel from 50 to 150 kms inland to breed in winter - near the actual South Pole.

We saw plenty of the King penguins which have the same striking plumage as the Emperor and many more of the other kinds. Rockhopper, Megellanic, Adelie, Chinstrap, Gentoo and others. I didn’t realize there were so many different kinds, but they all have black and white plumage with differently arranged markings, although some – like the Rockhoppers and Macaroni – have long orange coloured feathers sticking out of their heads at the side which look rather like a teenagers odd haircut. Others have brightly coloured beaks and the Kings have lovely orange bibs and ear markings. The year old chicks of the Kings have a thick fuzzy feather covering, tan coloured, and are known as “Oakum Boys” after Charles Dickens’ workhouse waifs Gentoo make nests from stones and are constantly stealing stones from adjoining nests. A basket full of green marbles was once placed at one breeding site and the period it took for a green marble to appear on each nest recorded was not long. About two weeks!
At most of the stopping places there were other birds to see – particularly the albatrosses – there are a good dozen different kinds of these – the Skuas, Petrels, various Cormorants and Shags, now and again, some kind of goose or duck, with several of the equivalent of l.b.j.s. that is, island birds like larks, pipits and the odd thrush. But penguins by the million – wall to wall at breeding sites.

At the various landfalls made by the vessel, the passengers could go ashore in small groups under the guidance and control of one of the expedition guides. There were several of these experts, usually but not always, birding guides, who would point out matters of interest once ashore – whether animal, vegetable or mineral and, of course, historical. Back on the ship and on the days when no landfall took place, there was usually a series of lectures laid on by the people who were expert in the particular field covered by the lecture – like Antarctic exploration, ornithology, fish, plate tectonics, geology and history. Almost all were excellent, interesting and informative.
We stopped at a number of places that were really uninhabited islands, one of them being the caldera of Deception Island which volcano spewed out ash several years ago forcing the two research settlements to abandon their sites, but others – like South Georgia and Elephant Island had a special interest in Antarctic exploration history.

South Georgia was initially used as a base for whaling operations. The Norwegian’s main station was called Grytviken and was situated on the northeast side of the island, which is a long protrusion running roughly north west to south east and is essentially the peaks of a mountain chain sticking out of the Southern ocean. The peaks reach up to 10 000 to 12 000 feet, and are covered in snow and ice and from which several glaciers run down to the sea. The southern western side of the place is and was always uninhabited by any permanent settlement.

The special interest in these two islands arose from the parts they played in Shackleton’s 2\textsuperscript{nd} expedition to the South Pole. ……………….to be continued.
Neil ‘Smudge’ Smith has prepared some notes on Police Displays over the years which will bring back fond memories, especially for all those members of the Force who took part. In this edition of the Natal Outpost we publish his overview and in future issues intend recording more specific detail for each of the 23 years in which he was involved -

“The Police Display and Mounted Sports were performed annually at the Police Depot and the Display at all Agricultural Shows in Rhodesia and on a number of occasions in Northern Rhodesia. During my service from 1948 - 1971 I was fortunate, or unfortunate, to be a participant on each occasion.

The use of policemen to be engaged in these duties was a subject of discussion as well as contention by members of the Force, from the Commissioner down to the last attested recruit in Depot. The consensus was that a display was a waste of money, time and was nothing more than a circus. Manpower could be better employed on more practical police duties. However, when the Police Display was in the arena these same loud-spoken dissenters could be seen in the stands applauding the performance of the display team.
The manpower for the Display Team was normally drawn from the first Recruit Squad of the year. There was no choice - one recruits’ complaint that he had attested as a policeman not a "bloody jockey" was made on deaf ears.

The Display Team normally commenced with a full dress rehearsal for the old age pensioners, school children and members of Tomlinson Depot on the Wednesday prior to the Display held on Saturday afternoon. The Display itself was preceded by the Police Mounted Sports as can be seen from the attached programme.

Crowds of up to ten thousand spectators were catered for and they enjoyed a spectacular afternoon. From Depot, after the Saturday performance, the Display travelled by road and rail to the following centres: Gatooma, Gwelo, Bulawayo, Wankie, Umtali, Fort Victoria and the Royal Show in Salisbury. Marandellas and Bindura were also included in the itinerary as were Livingstone and Lusaka in Northern Rhodesia on a number of occasions. Show jumping teams participated at the Rand Easter Show in 1955, 1956 and 1961 where R/H’s Matchless, Kingdom, Marksman and Gay Lad proved their worth. Again in 1969 and 1971 when


Displays at these centers were given on four days of the Show Week and at centres such as Salisbury, Bulawayo and Gwelo night shows were also given. It was also agreed that the Displays should perform at the Native locations on the Sunday afternoons.

The Police Display was obviously the main attraction and the Show Societies had full houses and full purses. Apart from travelling expenses for horses and equipment no compensation was paid to the BSAP for their efforts.
I remember well the 1955 Motor Cycle Display Team travelling to Umtali and Bulawayo on their stripped-down Matchless motor cycles practicing their display movements at speeds in excess of 70 miles an hour.

The Display team could not perform without the Police Band which was the major contributor to the afternoon and evening entertainment. The African Police Training School, later Tomlinson Depot, provided mass Physical Training Displays including dumb bells, log poles, cycle polo, hornpipe dances and toy soldiers.

An additional contribution to the Display in 1948 was made by R/H Flight giving a dressage display which would be very hard to repeat at any level.

1949 included a tiger hunt with R/H Cannon dressed up as an elephant complete with a howdah in which sat a white hunter, Indian gun bearer and a tiger. The tiger appeared in the arena to the tune of "Hold that Tiger". On one occasion the tiger was chased around the arena by a couple of local dogs, the elephant was released by the Indian Gun Bearer as he was not seeing eye to eye with the Big White Hunter sitting precariously in the howdah and the band blaring away with "Hold that Tiger". The scene brought the house down although completely unrehearsed.

The Police Dogs were an added attraction and, of course, the clowns were in demand by the children. A "Ringmaster" was responsible for the various acts to be performed.

I can’t help but feel that this photograph suggests that, from the shape of ‘her’ legs (and bottom), the ‘damsel’ being taken to Gretna Green was not a male recruit but someone who had been smuggled into Depot the night before? – (td.)
Members of the Display Team also carried out Mounted Escort Duties at the Opening of Parliament and the Queen's Birthday Parade. They were also used as the Depot Permanent Riot Squad. In 1953 the Display was about to enter the arena at the Royal Salisbury Show when an urgent call was made over the public address system that all BSAP members were required to report to Depot. Riders dismounted, handed their horses over and that evening found themselves in Nyasaland attending to riots which had broken out."

TWENTY YEARS AGO

In our last Natal Outpost we reported on the Centenary Dinner held in London in 1989 and produced a montage of photographs of the South African contingent, by courtesy of John Dolby. Of the 32 photos displayed we can now provide an updated list but still with a number of gaps –

On this and the next page we introduce the UK contingent plus visitors from other parts of the world (including some South Africans who were unfortunate to have missed out on Eric Robb’s pilgrimage).

We have identified those we believe we recognize – can you fill in the gaps please? (perhaps a better effort than last time?)

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Regarding the question mark – there were obviously quite a few members attending the dinner whose photograph does not appear, so if anyone out there wishes to bring this to our attention perhaps you would drop me a line and include a head and shoulders pic of yourself at about that time or a recent photo?

COMMISSIONERS OF THE BSA POLICE

Andrew Field has researched the commissioners of our Force, including the predecessor forces, from 1890. We have chosen to copy his material for the period 1933 to 1980 for the benefit of our readers who are likely to have served under one or more of them during their time in the BSAP.

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**Morris, John Sidney** (1119) (1890-1961) CBE; KPM; CPM; Brigadier - Commissioner 15 February 1933 to 24 April 1945

Mini Biography: Born 1890 Didsbury, Lancashire and attended Grammar School in Manchester. He enlisted with the BSA Police in October 1909 and served mostly in Mashonaland districts. Morris was commissioned in April 1914 and appears to have transferred to the CID in 1915. He served in Bulawayo and Salisbury achieving the rank of Superintendent in 1926. In November 1929 he became an Assistant Commissioner to Stops with the rank of Major. Officers had both military and police ranks at this time. In the lead up to the Second World War, Morris was appointed Commandant of the Southern Rhodesian Forces. He died in Salisbury, Southern Rhodesia, on 18 November 1961. Awarded CBE 1935; OStJ 1938; CPM 1944; and KPM 1945

**Ross, John Ellis 'Jack'** (1771) (1893-1965) CBE; CVO; KPM; Brigadier - Commissioner 24 April 1945 to 6 December 1950

Deputy Commissioners (in succession):

- **Surgey, Herbert Frederick Montagu 'Monty'** (1860) (1893-1969) OBE; OstJ; Colonel 1946 - 26 September 1948
- **Appleby, James** (2123) (1899-1995) CBE; KPM; Colonel - 27 September 1948 to 6 December 1950

Mini Biography: Born 7 June 1893 in Kent, England and educated King's School, Worcester. Attested into the BSA Police in October 1913 and took part in the capture of Schuckmannsburg during the Great War. He was seconded to the Rhodesian Native Regiment and saw action in East Africa. Ross was commissioned in 1921. He was at one stage Commandand Depot (1934-40) and was promoted to Assistant Commissioner in 1941. He retired on pension in December 1950. John Ross died on 16 November 1965 at Kenilworth, Cape Town. Awarded KPM 1945; CVO 1947; CBE 1950

**Appleby, James** (2123) (1899-1995) CBE; KPM; Colonel - Commissioner 7 December 1950 to 2 June 1954

Deputy Commissioner: **Hickman, Arthur Selwyn** (2622) (1900 - 1976 ) OBE; QPM; CPM; 7 December 1950 to 3 June 1954
### Mini Biography:
Born 11 June 1899, London. He joined the Bedfordshire Regiment in 1917, but later transferred to the Royal Flying Corp and trained as a pilot. He saw First World War action in France during which he sustained injuries from a plane crash. Appleby joined the BSA Police in October 1919 and was posted to the districts. He was commissioned in September 1924 and served in most districts. He was an excellent shottist and sportman. He saw further active service in the Second World War and had been instrumental in re-organising police forces in occupied territories under the British Military Administration. He returned to the BSA Police in June 1944 and was appointed Deputy Commissioner in September 1948. He died in South Africa 7 July 1985. Awarded KPM 1953; CBE 1954.

### Hickman, Arthur Selwyn (2622) (1900-1976) OBE; QPM; CPM
Colonel - Commissioner 3 June 1954 to 5 November 1955

### Deputy Commissioner:

- **Jackson, Harold**: (2853) (1903-1998) CBE; KPM; CPM; Colonel - Commissioner: 6 November 1954 to 5 November 1955

### Mini Biography:
Born 6 November 1900 at St Keyne, England. After a short spell in South Africa he joined the BSA Police in August 1924. His early service is obscure. He was commissioned in 1928 and by 1939 he was in Depot Command. During the Second World War he was seconded to the staff of the Commandant Southern Rhodesia Forces. Post War, Hickman became the Quartermaster of Police and on 7 December 1950 was appointed Deputy Commissioner. After leaving the force Commissioner Hickman researched and wrote several titles on Rhodesian history. He died in Salisbury, Rhodesia, on 22 July 1976. Awarded OBE 1944; CPM 1954; QPM 1955.

### Jackson, Harold (2853) (1903-1998) CBE; KPM; CPM; Colonel - Commissioner: 6 November 1955 to 12 March 1958

### Deputy Commissioner:

- **Spurling, Basil Gordon** (3100) (1908-1991) CBE; CPM; QPM - 6 November 1955 to 12 March 1958

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**Spurling, Basil Gordon** (3100) (1908-1991) CBE; CPM; QPM - Commissioner: 13 March 1958 to 25 April 1963

**Deputy Commissioners:**

- **Crime and Security - Borland, Robert Hugh** (3306) CPM - 13 March 1958 to 30 September 1960
- **Crime and Security - Barfoot, Frank Eric** (3342) (1913-1971) ID; CBE; QPM; CPM - 1 October 1960 7 - 25 April 1963
- **Administration - Rolfe, Graham Sydney** (2934) CPM - 1 July 1960 to 28 February 1961
- **Administration - Flower, Ken** (3654)(b.1937-d.) MBE - 1 March 1961 to 25 April 1963

**Mini Biography:** Born 1908 Rochford, England. He attested into the BSA Police in April 1929 and was first posted to the districts. He served three 'stints' at Morris Depot, the last as Commandant. Spurling was a keen sportsman a represented the police in football, rugby and tennis. He was commissioned in October 1933 and took up provincial command positions in both the Midlands and Matabelelend, before promotion to Deputy Commissioner in November 1955. He died 27 March 1991 in Natal. Awarded CPM 1954; QPM 1957; CBE 1959

**Barfoot, Frank Eric** (3342) (b.1913-d.1971) ID; CBE; QPM; CPM - Commissioner: 26 April 1963 to 2 January 1968

**Deputy Commissioners:**

- **Administration - Harries, George Mervyn** (3369) (1912-2001) ICD; OBE; CPM; PLSM - 26 April 1963 to 19 October 1967
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- **Administration - Bailey, Robert "Bill" John** (3703) (1917-1987) PLSM - 20 October 1967 to 1 November 1971

**Mini Biography:** Born 2 January 1913 Claremont, South Africa and educated Rondebosch Boys' High School. Joined BSA Police in April 1933 and served most of his career in the Criminal Investigation Department. He was commissioned in 1947 serving in command positions in Salisbury, Bulawayo and Gwelo. He was appointed Officer Commanding CID in 1960 and later the same year was promoted to Deputy Commissioner (crime and Security). He died in Salisbury on 27 September 1971. Awarded CPM 1955; QPM 1961; CBE 1964; ID 1970

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- **Spink, James** (3743) (1914-1997) ICD; QPM; CPM; PLSM - Commissioner: 3 January 1968 to 26 June 1970

**Deputy Commissioners:**

- **Crime and Security - Crabtree, William** (3708) (b.1917) PCD; CPM; RGSM - 3 January 1968 to 31 May 1970
- **Crime and Security - Sherren, Peter Dennis Wray Richard** (3862) (1920-1995) CLM; GLM; OLM; PCD; PLSM; RGSM - 1 June 1970 - 6 February 1974
- **Administration - Bailey, Robert "Bill" John** (3703) (1917-1987) PLSM - 27 November 1967 to 1 November 1971
- **Bristow, Sydney Frederick Samuel** (3844)(1919-2008) CLM, PCD; PLSM, CPM - January 1970 to 27 June 197016 (Bristow appears to have been appointed Commissioner elect without portfolio)
- **Flower, Ken** (3654)(1914-1987.) MBE - 20 October 1961 to 30 June 1969 (Remained a Deputy Commissioner without portfolio on secondment to CIO from 12 September 1963 to 30 July 1969)

**Mini Biography:** Born 26 June 1914 Arbroath, Scotland and educated Stewart's College, Edinburgh. Commenced career in insurance, and then served in Edinburgh Police for four years before attesting into the BSA Police in April 1938. Spink was seconded to the Rhodesian African Rifles and saw active service in Burma during Second World War. He returned to policing in 1946 and was commissioned in 1949 following which he served mostly in Salisbury. He was promoted to Deputy Commissioner (Crime and Security) in November 1967. He died in Perth, Australia on 24 January 1997. Awarded War Medal 39-45; Burma Star 1945; CPM 1956; QPM 1964; ICD 1970; and PLSM

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Deputy Commissioners:

- **Crime and Security - Sherren, Peter Dennis Wray Richard** (3862) (1920-1995) CLM; GLM; OLM; PCD; PLSM; RGSM - 1 June 1970 - to 6 February 1974
- **Administration - Bailey, Robert "Bill" John** (3703) (1917-1987) PLSM - to 1 November 1971
- **Administration - Allen, Thomas "Gubby" Digby** (3779) (1918-1998) OLM; PCD; CPM; PLSM; RGSM - 2 November 1971 to 7 July 1973
- **Administration - Jouning, Leonard James** (3968) (1921-1980) OLM; PCD; CPM; PLSM; RGSM 8 July 1973 - to 21 August 1977

Mini Biography: Born 1919, South Africa and educated at Maritzburg College, in Natal where he excelled at sport. He joined the BSA Police in August 1939 but was soon posted to Abyssinia on active service during the Second World War and only returned to his policing career in 1946. Bristow soon joined the Criminal Investigation Department as served most of his service in plain clothes. He was commissioned in 1958 and posted to the Bulawayo Headquarters which was to move to Salisbury a year later. Bristow assumed command of the Special Branch in 1968 and following a short spell was appoint Deputy Commissioner in June 1970. He died in Harare on 18 July 2008. Awarded CPM 1960; CPLSM; PCD 1971; CLM 1972; and PLSM

Sherren, Peter Dennis Wray Richard (3862) (1920-1995) CLM; OLM; PCD; PCM; PLSM; RGSM - Commissioner: 7 February 1974 to 6 February 1978

Deputy Commissioners:

- **Crime and Security - Allum, Peter Kevin** (3939) (b.1926) CLM; OLM; PLSM; RGSM - 7 February 1974 to 6 February 1978
- **Administration - Jouning, Leonard James** (3968) (1921-1980) OLM; PCD; CPM; PLSM; RGSM 8 July 1973 - to 21 August 1977
- **Administration - Atkinson, George** (4094) (1923-1990) OLM; PCD; CPM; PLSM; RGSM 22 August 1977 to 22 September 1981

This page sponsored by 5661 Trevor Wilson
Mini Biography: Born 16 August 1920 Wimereux, France and educated Leigh Hall College, Essex, where he achieved sporting honours. His career started in the family business, but he was drawn to Africa and attested into the BSA Police on 13 August 1939. He spend the first years of his service in the districts before secondment to World War II active service. Sherren returned to Rhodesia in 1946. He was commissioned in October 1956 and took command positions in Umtali and Fort Victoria Districts, and then Matabeleland Province, before arriving at General Headquarters. He was promoted to Deputy Commission (Crime and Security) in 1970. Awarded CPM 1959; PCD 1971; OLM 1973; CLM 1977; OLM 1978; and PLSM. He died in Harare 16 August 1995.

Allum, Peter Kevin (3939) (b.1926) CLM; OLM; PLSM; RGSM - Commissioner: 7 February 1978 to 1 August 1980 (Cessation of the British South Africa Police). He continued as Commissioner of the Zimbabwe Republic Police until 6 February 1982.

Deputy Commissioners:

- **Crime and Security - Denley, Jack** (4261) (1923-1985) OLM; PCD; CPM; PLSM; RGSM - 7 February 1978 to 1 August 1980 (Cessation of the British South Africa Police). He continued as Deputy Commissioner of the Zimbabwe Republic Police until 6 February 1982 succeeding **Allum** as Commissioner.
- **Administration - Atkinson, George** (4094) (1923-1990) OLM; PCD; CPM; PLSM; RGSM 22 August 1977 to 22 September 1981
- **Administration - Stuart, George Charles** (4736) (b.1929) PMM, PLSM (and Bar), RGSM 22 September 1981 to 13 September 1983
- **Personnel and Recruitment - Murray, Philip Stuart** (4437) (1928-1995) PCD; PMM; PLSM; MLM; RGSM - ? to 1 May 1982

DIARY OF EVENTS FOR THE REMAINDER OF 2010

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<td>Sun. 25 July</td>
<td>Hillcrest</td>
<td>“Bring &amp; Braai” at Inchanga Village</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sat 18 Sep</td>
<td>Natal Branch</td>
<td>Annual lunch at Augusta Club, Hillcrest <em>(details to follow)</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sun. 21 Nov</td>
<td>Hillcrest</td>
<td>“Bring &amp; Braai” at Augusta Club</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
HILLCREST ‘BRING & BRAAI’ : 23 May

Brian Perkins  Derek Kerr  Rob Bristow

Chris Driver

Hilary Squires  Ben Pretorius

Shirley & Neil Smith  Des & Trish Howse

Megan Kerr

Vic & Rene Sutherland  Gerda & Alan Cunningham

After today - no more!!! I just read an article on the dangers of drinking.... Scared the shit out of me. So that’s it! After today, no more reading!