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The Chairman’s Chat

As ever, I am writing this in the aftermath of the Annual Dinner and prior to our Christmas gathering. The dinner was, again, a very successful event but with quite a poor attendance. I note that 2009 saw 70 present; in 2010 we fielded 60 diners and this year only 50. If that trend continues, by 2018 I shall be having a one-to-one with the guest speaker. This year’s speaker, Col. Peter Walton, spoke with passion on his prime subject of history and preservation and was also very entertaining with his reminiscences of his Rhodesian connections; the response from Les Burrow was of a high standard (but I shall never use Tippex again). My thanks to Parry Jones for his organisation and Mick York for handling the raffle (on which note I am delighted to report that one of our members generously donated his winnings to the Association).

Looking forward - the Remembrance Day service at the Rhodesia plot at Westminster Abbey will be on Sunday 13 November. Barry Henson and I will be taking an active part and, again, it would be very pleasing to see some members in support.

After that we look towards our Christmas Sundowner and I look forward to seeing you there. Your committee had considered making a small charge for this event, however, wiser counsel prevailed, so please bring yourselves, and a raffle prize, along on 6 December and support this event.

You will see elsewhere that Editorship of this magazine has changed. Mike Abbotts has done sterling work over the last six years but felt it was now time to hand over the pen. We thank him for his time in the chair. Fortunately we had a volunteer in the shape of Parry Jones and he will comment elsewhere.

I know we had distribution problems with the last issue. In the best political jargon, systems are now in place to ensure it does not happen again.

Looking even further forward, the AGM will be on 12 May 2012, and the Braai at Lilleshall on 4 August 2012. I look forward to seeing more of you in 2012 but, in the meantime, may I wish you the compliments of the Season and all you would wish for yourselves for the New Year.

Peter Phillips 6905

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Contact Bertie Cubitt
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Res. ‘Friton’, 55 Church Road, Elmstead, Essex CO7 7AW

4539 Hugh ALEXANDER in loving memory of wife Yvonne
The Editor’s Epistle

As the latest of a long line of Editors of The UK Outpost, I have a high standard to maintain. My immediate predecessor, Mike Abbots did a sterling job which I hope to emulate and with good fortune and more modern technology, improve.

As is always the case with the change of a Member i/c, there will be some alterations and of course the usual tadzaz.

The main one with this changeover, was of course that the HonSec Alistair Black, is also new and somewhere along the line Alistair was given an incorrect and incomplete address list of recipients of The Outpost. Hence, some of you may have received your copy late, or even worse, not at all. This will hopefully be a one-off and you will get your future copies on time. If you have still not received issue 78, please contact Mike Coleman (details on page 1) and he will send you one.

I am now producing colour copies of The Outpost, but because of the extra costs incurred (nearly double the cost), the colour copies will only be distributed electronically. So, if you want your colour copy, let the HonSec know. The frontispiece is a little different and includes details of the printer and distributor.

The Editor prepares your magazine and sends it to the printer. Any error in the content of The Outpost is therefore the Editor’s responsibility.

Catford Printers, print what is given to them in the order in which it is sent, and having done so sends it to the distributor, Mike Coleman. Mike distributes The Outpost according to an address list supplied by the HonSec. If there are any questions relating to non-delivery of The Outpost, please direct enquiries to Mike, but first make sure you have notified the HonSec of any changes of address.

My name appears to cause confusion. I am known to most people as Parry Jones and I am happy with being called Parry. Jan, my late wife, only called me Hywel (my first name) when I was going to get a blast - it gave me warning of what to expect. I have used Parry as my first name since my joining days and it was reinforced when the late Sgt Terry Franklin, said, 'I’m not using a (bleep) double-barrelled name, what’s it to be, Parry or Jones'. I cockily replied, ‘Just call me Parry, sergeant’, and the name stuck. I hope that clarifies matters.

As my deadline for getting this issue to the Printer has arrived, and I am short of copy, I have been obliged to reduce this issue to 46 pages from 50. My apologies for that, and especially for all those who have paid for sponsorships of pages. Please be assured that those of you whose dedication has not appeared in this issue will be credited and the dedications will appear in later issues.

6424 Wynn BERRY
The Annual Regimental Dinner of the UK Branch of the Association took place in The Carisbrooke Hall, Victory Services Club, Seymour Street, London on Friday 23 September 2011. Members and guests started to arrive at 5.00 pm and after signing in made their way to the bar where acquaintances, both old and new, had gathered. There was ample time to get up to date with the latest news before the bugle sounded for dinner at 7.15 pm. A total of 51 members and guests made their way to the dining hall to take their seats at tables decorated in blue and old gold together with place mats bearing the regimental badge and signs showing the names of Sable, Kudu, Impala, Waterbuck, Duiker, Bushbuck and Eland, all well-known Rhodesian antelopes.

Chairman, Peter Phillips, got things underway by welcoming Lord Michael Walker (Patron of the Association Trust), Brigadier Peter Heppenstall (Rhodesia Army Association) and Colonel Peter Walton (guest speaker). Peter then welcomed those attending from overseas, in particular Richard Barnes from Australia and Roger and Suzanne Cook from France. Peter then read out greetings and best wishes from Her Majesty the Queen, Barry Henson enjoying a UN jaunt in South Africa and Will Cornell from USA.

After the loyal toast and grace, members and guests sat down to an enjoyable meal. Following the customary break to allow those members in need, to get a breath of fresh air, Peter introduced our guest speaker, Colonel Peter Walton, ex-British Army, military historian, archivist, author and artist. In a speech that was well received by all, Peter spoke both about his experiences with the British Army in Zimbabwe after independence and the fact that...
BSAP history should continue to be recorded. After Peter proposed a toast to the Regiment and Regimental Association, Les Burrow (Junior Troop) replied in humorous fashion before proposing the toast to absent friends. It was then time for the raffle, once again efficiently organised by Mick York. Peter Walton drew the tickets, with the three prizes going to Ken Mageean, Robin Birch and Hugh Phillips. Proceeds from the raffle amounting to £931 going to Association funds. Once again a special word of thanks must go to Parry Jones and Lin Robertson for the efficient organisation of the dinner and to Bertie Cubitt for manning the Q Rep’s table.

Sitting down to dinner were: Lord Michael Walker, Brigadier David Heppenstall, Colonel Peter Walton, 4158 Tim Weimer, 4278 John Balchin, 4853 Fred Punter, 4857 Mike Wiltshire, 4882 Peter Dancer, 4934 Mike Burman, 4964 Mike Tadman, 5111 Jack Bacon, 5171 Peter Hillier, 5248 Alan Lane, 5358 Mick York, 5408 Richard Barnes, 5559 Dick Thompson, 5601 Eric Robb, 5615 Tom Meekin with guest Stanley Mills, 5625 Biff Way, 5975 Mike Abbotts, 6130 Randy Symmons, 6355 Mike Moysen, 6366 Jim Stoker, 6432 Chris Roberts, 6609 Parry Jones, 6632 Gerry Paxton, 6721 Peter Russell, 6737 Mike Coleman, 6743 Bruce Allen, 6753 Roger and Suzanne Cook, 6905 Peter Phillips, 7211 Peter Biddulph, 7212 Tony Brown, 7264 Gordon Best, 7359 Bertie Cubitt, 7391 Alan Toms, 7677 Peter Dewe, 7784 Steve Acornley, 7941 Randal Kennerley, 8021 Mike Rowl, 8163 Robbie and WP 199 Lin Robertson, 8338 Mal Thurman, 9086 Tony Granger, 9591 Les Burrow, WPO 190 Glynis Dibden, WFR 201279 Heather Milner, Report by 5248 Alan Lane
More Photographs from The Regimental Dinner

Mike Tadman, Mike Moysen and Peter Dancer

David Heppenstall and Tim Weimer

Bruce Allen & Chris Roberts

Pete Hillier & Jack Bacon

Tony Brown, Dick Thompson & Jack Bacon

(6772) Mary LANGRAN - In loving memory of Tim Langran
Why do scuba-divers fall backwards out of a boat? Because, if they didn’t, they would land on their faces in the boat.
No doubt many of you will have noted the, admittedly tenuous, connection between the British South Africa Police and the Royal Wedding in April. In case you haven’t, here are some photos featuring, in the wedding group, Page Boy William Lowther-Pinkerton (standing with the dark hair), whilst another shows Jamie Lowther-Pinkerton, his father, with the Princes Harry and William to whom he is Personal Secretary. They are the grandson and son respectively of 4383 A H ‘Pinky’ Lowther-Pinkerton who joined as a Trooper in 1949 and, of whom, Jamie has kindly supplied the third photo from his family collection.
5 July 2011 - a warm evening but with the threat of rain did not put off members from attending this month’s gathering. We were pleased to welcome 5281 Peter Bellingham, 7435 Taffy Jones and 8646 Andrew Field from Zimbabwe and 7751 Alan Crook from South Africa - it was great to see them all and catch up with the latest news. Making up the numbers and enjoying the company were: 4278 John Balchin, 4735 Cliff Rogers, 4840 Mike Purslow, 4853 Fred Punter, 4882 Peter Dancer, 5248 Alan Lane, 5469 Dave Grimbly, 5507 Brian Taylor (with new pace maker - good to see you back Brian), 5625 Biff Way, 6527 Mike O’Donnell, 6883 Tim Webb, 6905 Peter Phillips, 7211 Peter Biddulph, 7391 Alan Toms, 8275 Alastair Morgan, 8476 John Morris-Smith, 9270 Geraint Jones, 9392 Ian Spackman, 9495 Carl Gibbard, 9591 Les Burrow and guest Ian Stuart.

2 August 2011 - at last the summer weather has arrived and with it another good turnout at this month’s gathering. It was great to see 6650 Peter Combes (looking very fit and having just competed in the London Triathlon), 7184 Chris Russell and 7389 ‘Taffy’ Roberts all from South Africa together with 7435 ‘Taffy’ Jones, (Zimbabwe) and 7751 Alan Crook (South Africa) both also having attended last month’s get-together.
Also showing their faces were: 4278 John Balchin, 4503 Derek Humberstone, 4840 Mike Purslow, 4853 Fred Punter, 4857 Mike Wiltshire, 4882 Peter Dancer, 4955 Bob Morriston, 5248 Alan Lane, 5469 Dave Grimbly, 5507 Brian Taylor, 5625 ‘Biff’ Way, 5803 Robert Hardy, 5976 Nigel Seaward, 6432 Chris Roberts, 6527 Mike O’Donnell, 6737 Mike Coleman, 6905 Peter Phillips, 7211 Peter Biddulph, 7359 Bertie Cubitt and 7391 Alan Toms.

6 September 2011 - another well attended gathering this month - enjoying the company were: 4278 John Balchin, 4503 Derek Humberstone, 4840 Mike Purslow, 4882 Peter Dancer, 5469 Dave Grimbly, 5507 Brian Taylor, 5662 Barry Henson, 5975 Mike Abbotts, 6348 Dennis Poole, 6527 Mike O’Donnell, 6609 Parry Jones, 6630 Jim Hazlett, 6753 Roger Cook, 6905 Peter Phillips, 6988 Colin Say, 7211 Peter Biddulph, 7359 Bertie Cubitt, 7391 Alan Toms, 8275 Alistair Morgan, WP 199 Lin Robertson and P/R David Bullock.
Curry and rice luncheon
Rosebank Bowling Club
26/06/2011
This was again very well-attended and a good time was had by all it seemed. Close to a hundred were present and assisted in our fund-raising project by having a good lunch and supporting the raffle. Many thanks also to those who donated prizes. The following signed the register:

In order to avoid being called a flirt, she always yielded easily. Charles, Count Talleyrand
I’ve had a perfectly wonderful evening. But this wasn’t it.
Groucho Marx
Phil and Robin

Phil Devlin’s 80th Birthday Party
16/6/11
Yes, we have a new octogenarian! Chris Russell and Terry Schwartz organised Phil’s in Fourways. Most of your committee attended as well as others. Phil and Robin were delighted and he gave a fine speech. We all know how supportive they are of the association. Keep it up Phil!

Bertie’s Blether
Greetings all - since the last Outpost issue The Regimental Dinner at the VSC has come and gone and although a bit sparsely attended one was able to get round to speak to nearly everyone which was a big plus. By the by, those who participate in the raffle, please send the stubs back to Mick York, and not to just any committee Member as it costs the Association to send them on to Mick. His address is on the tickets.
The Treasurer and I would like to thank those of you who put Force Numbers onto payments to the Trust or Regimental accounts. It makes our job so very much easier when allocating payments to any particular sub-account. Although much better of late, there are still members who are sending payments without a covering letter or note. My crystal ball is somewhat cloudy in these circumstances and Lin is not clairvoyant. We would both greatly appreciate a note with the remittance (or even a scribble on the back of the cheque indicating how the remittance should be allocated. Your Regimental Number and what the payment is for needs to be endorsed. Numbers are unique, but some names are common - we have eight Smiths and seven Taylors on the UK membership roll.
As always, thanks to those who have so generously sponsored a page in The Outpost. It helps a great deal with the cost. Also, to those members who have supported the Association by buying memorabilia. For the newbees who have joined this year, I have Regimental and Association ties in stock at £8.50 and £12.50 plus P&P. A must for those who wish to remain correctly dressed.
I realise it is a bit early, but a Happy Christmas to all in the Association and hopefully a reasonable New Year.
Fred Punter’s Visit to Ireland

At 6.00am on Friday 2 September 2011 it was a chilly and early start from Grantham, Lincs for Fred Punter, Brian Hodson, Mick York and Les Burrow, all travelling in Les’s car bound initially for Holyhead and Irish Ferries catamaran Jonathan Swift, en route to Dublin and finally Nagles Bar & Guest House at Kilsheelan, County Tipperary, and in the words of the song it was ‘a long way to Tipperary’, although the group jokes and banter, as well as an educational commentary by Brian Hodson (honorary Welshman) made the time pass quickly.

We stopped at the Little Chef on the A55 for breakfast, and due to the athletic physiques of the travelling party, we all sat down to a large plateful aptly named Olympic Breakfast. We looked across the River Dee estuary to the Wirral, waved to Rod Wilson but he obviously didn’t have his telescope out.

Planning for this trip had started in April, and the four of us decided to leave our wives at home and have a boys’ weekend away. The weekend of
3-4 September is very busy for the Irish Ferries, it traditionally being the Irish Hurling finals at Croke Park and the end of the UK school holidays. The Irish BSAP gathering, is at Sandy Stoke’s Farm near Clonmel on the Saturday lunchtime. Having previously attended the Irish gathering several times over the past six years, staying at Nagles, I was aware that the Friday night was also the occasion for a party. Those staying at the pub, about 20 or more, usually having dinner together and then a little sing-song. I thought some Irish flavour should be introduced and contacted Sandy Stokes having been assured that the licensee Tony Gleeson would have no objection to live music. Sandy found that one of his near relatives would organise a small group of entertainers but had no idea of what this would consist.

By special request Lucy Gleeson produced an excellent and filling dinner, a choice of roast beef or chicken, plenty of meat and plates overflowing with vegetables. This was followed by huge portions of dessert. Many thanks from the travellers to Lucy and her helpers. After dinner, around 9pm the entertainers arrived, Billy Stokes, Liam Roche, his wife and daughter with various amplifiers, instruments, microphones etc. and set up their ensemble. Although related in one way or another they had never previously performed as a group. Liam Roche played the lead piano accordion. What a pleasant surprise when the band struck up, a really great sound from two piano accordions, guitar and Billy Stokes on mouth organ. Liam’s daughter, the guitarist also played a large keyboard and sang very much in the style of Tammy Wynette. For about two hours or more we were entertained by a non-stop variety of typical Irish jigs, ballads, country and western and some very humorous recitations by Billy. Liam encouraged us to join in when we knew the words but despite this Tom

Fred Punter presenting John Berry with his Honorary Life Membership Certificate

6424 Wynn BERRY
Meekin and Stan Mills took the lead in one of the ballads, ‘The Fields of Athenry’. Naturally the music could be heard throughout the pub, and one of the locals, a feisty and well-proportioned lady came through from the bar, did a bit of dance and then pulled me onto the dance floor. I resisted but she was insistent, and, as a gentleman, what could I do? (Fred, we know, we know! - Ed.) It was an excellent evening’s entertainment, I made the obligatory but sincere thank you speech. The band declined all offers of payment, saying that they also enjoyed the evening. Special thanks to Sandy for arranging the entertainment. Wine, Guinness and beer were consumed in copious quantities and it was a very merry and contented group that staggered off to bed to rest and prepare for the following day’s party. It was an evening to remember. For the record, B&B for two nights and one evening meal cost €165 for two sharing a room and you could not get a more helpful and congenial host.

(5479) Jan LEACH - in loving memory of Michael
Saturday the 3 September dawned cloudy and wet but by midday the weather cleared and there was a sigh of relief from those gathered for the 10th Annual Irish Gathering. The venue as usual was the fine home of Sandy Stokes for which many thanks are offered. In all 51 persons attended. Apologies were received from 4209 Julian Burkitt and 4789 Eddie Matchett, both on account of ill-health and 5635 Dave Riley (family affairs). An apology of sorts can be credited to 5601 Eric Robb in that he pitched up a day late, on the Sunday, having entered the date incorrectly in his diary. Members moved freely about the extensive grounds, meeting up with old colleagues, before partaking of the excellent and varied lunch prepared by Eve Norris, Anne Mills, Marie Berry, Katharine Flynn, Joan Meekin, all under the overall supervision of Master Chef Sandy. Thanks to all involved. Thanks also to Fred Punter who took on the role of Official Photographer and took excellent shots of small groups and then the important Group Photo. To accommodate the crowd Sandy positioned his tractor and trailer on the lawn. Some time was required to get all the people positioned on the trailer, whether due to drink or age is not known. To appreciate the quality of this photo it requires to be seen in colour.

Biff Way took over the raffle, sold tickets, was master of ceremonies at the draw in his own inimitable fashion and was so successful that a sum of £270 was raised both from the raffle and lunch proceeds, to be sent to the Association as a donation. Many thanks to Biff and also to the many who

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Memory of Mike PLANT
brought prizes to be raffled. Much appreciated.
As usual at BSAP functions, there was a substantial hard core who remained until late in the evening, finishing off the liquor and also having a second meal of the fine food left over from lunch.
In attendance were:
5211 Bill Birch (from Namibia); 5358 Mick York; 9591 Les Burrow; 7391 Alan and Lynn Toms; 5584 John and Marie Berry; 8131 Brian Hodson; 5615 Tom and Joan Meekin; 4853 Fred Punter; 9207 Garth Long and Sandy Webster; 9225 John and Linda Scott; 8408 (ex-RUC) Stan and Anne Mills; 5625 Biff Way; FR 23361 Chris and Wendy Kavanagh; Maud Croghan (guest); 4583 Paddy Leen; 5936 Roger and Renate Capper; 5681 Robin and Carole Harvey; Mike Harris (Rhod. Govt. guest); Rob and Rosemary Davey (RRAF, guests); 5272 Pat Deasy; Bill McCarter (RRAF, guest); Geoff and Maggie Wood (guests); 30487 FR Anthony and Jennifer Sly; 7348 Peter O'Hara; 6264 Bob and Katherine Flynn; 6921 Howard and Val Byrne; 8196 Tom Devoy; Rev. Noel Scott (guest); 5508 Gordon and Eve Norris; Kenneth and Margaret Taylor (guests); 5586 Sandy Stokes; PR 8704K Keith and Carol Latham; 31477N FR Ian and Patricia Pearce.
NB The 11th Annual Irish Gathering will be held on Saturday, 1 September, 2012.

5584 John Berry

The North-West Gatherings
Changes at The Myerscough have made it unsuitable as a meeting place for the North West Region. It is now a very busy (have you booked) pub, the food is still good but it has become a fast-food sort of place where they want your table for the next customers as soon as you have finished your meal. Obviously that is no good for people who want to chat after a couple of drinks, So we moved back to the Bay Horse, further down the same road towards Skipton for our June meeting. The service and food was excellent, and one and all said ‘Yes, we should move here’.

Our next visit was 11 September and things had gone downhill, the licensee was absent and I asked if they had changed the chef. We have three or four ladies in our group who cook, one ordered lasagna and said, ‘This is not lasagna’, another said, ‘The green beans have not been topped and tailed’, and another stated that, ‘if this Yorkshire pudding had been hanging over the side of the Titanic when it hit the iceberg it would not have sunk!’

This was not the end of my woes. One crazy lady who runs in marathons, the last being in New York this year (no names but she is married to Bugs Moran) suggested I might join her in a race next year! This idea reduced Paula Woolley and Margaret Deaden to hysteric to such an extent that we feared they would choke. ‘Whoever has seen a man with COPD running, never mind a Marathon’. I am sure
Tessa meant well, but I am not speaking to her again. The members attending were the old faithfults, (6314) Val Marsden always enjoys herself. She has quite a few grandchildren and is away a lot, so I have to remind her of the meeting. It is now four years plus since we lost Barry Marsden and Harry Davies. Then we lost Mike Leach and more recently 4041 Allen Day, who of course, started the north-west meetings and handed over to me in 1999. The 4843 Stricklands, 5639 Hoggarths, 20844 Colemans, 7486 Roy Aston, and 4716 Larry King are no longer able to travel far, so our numbers are depleted. This seems to be the norm as I am told there were only 50 members at the Annual Dinner this year. With petrol at or over £6 per gallon and hotel and B&B room prices forever creeping up - travel ain’t cheap. I recently drove to Heathrow and back and nearly ran out of petrol on the return. On the M6 I went into the service area and petrol was 149p per litre, so I just put in £5 worth, which easily got me home, where I filled up at 131p per litre - saving over £7 on the M6 prices. Even the Meerkats are feeling the pinch and insurance premiums have jumped up this year. I had to pay £448 compared to £331 last year and that with nine years NCD. Mustn’t grumble I suppose. I recall when I was on £30 per month in Rhodesia, when £10 or thereabouts had to be paid into the Mess, leaving £20 to live on and save for the fare home on long leave. I paid £96 to sail from Beira around the Cape (Suez was closed - I think it was the Gas Board digging it up) to Southampton. A gallon of petrol was then, as now, about the same price as a packet of 20 cigarettes, about 2/6d. (Might have been the electricity people but I am sure it was the Gas Board.)

Our meeting and Christmas Lunch will be at the Bay Horse on 11 December at noon. Then for the second Sunday in March, June, September and December 2012, it depends on the Bay Horse, but everyone will be advised in good time and can call me on 0151 605 1333 (but not before 10am please as I have given up the early shift).


Apologies: 8307 Flash Firth - working, 5658 Alan Whitehurst, (7022) Dorothy Walker and the gang from Carlisle, 5642 Mike Parr.

4933 Rod Wilson, Secretary
**Soldier No More** is a haunting account of life in modern Zimbabwe. Tasked by the Sunday Express to write about the people of his troubled country, David Lemon spent time with farmers, their labourers, the homeless and many of the little people who have suffered under the Mugabe regime and whose plight is rarely recorded. Meeting up with many an adventure along the way, Lemon writes with a refreshing honesty that reflects his love for Zimbabwe and its people, as well as his impatience with Western politicians who could do so much more to help the citizens of a troubled little country.

*When* future generations research the history of Zimbabwe, they will read this book and marvel, not only at the brutality of the Mugabe regime, but also at the spirit that allows persecuted people to survive in the worst of circumstances.

**Soldier No More** can be ordered through your local bookshop (UK only) or through Amazon at £9.95 plus postage. If you require a personally inscribed copy, please send a cheque/PO for £12 (UK) or £15 (overseas) to Albida Books, France Lynch. GL6 8LJ.

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**BSAP Christmas Party**

The BSAP Christmas Party will be held on the first Tuesday 6 December starting at 17:30 at the Victory Services Club. There is no charge for this event, although you will have to pay for your own drinks (unless you can bludge one of your friends). A light buffet will be available. The Chairman and Committee look forward to seeing as many of you as possible at this party. Please bring a small raffle prize for the draw which will take place that evening. Please let Parry Jones know if you are coming and how many guests you will have. Parry needs this information for catering.

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**Last Wish**

John was on his deathbed and gasped pitifully, ‘Give me one last request, dear’.

‘Of course, John’, his wife said softly.

‘Six months after I die’, he said, ‘I want you to marry Bob’.

‘But I thought you hated Bob’, she said.

With his last breath John said, ‘I do!’

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(2853) Jean ILLINGWORTH in loving memory of Col. H Jackson
The Scottish Gathering 2012

The success of the inaugural Scottish Gathering in May this year has brought much support and encouragement for another event in 2012. The venue, timings and programme being approved, it is with pleasure that your organisers announce that 28 York Place, Edinburgh, has been booked for Saturday 26 May 2012 for what will now become an annual event. The same catering plan will be followed and it is hoped that costs will be kept close to 2011 levels. This early notification should assist members in making their plans, and a further newsletter with details and news will be sent out in early 2012.

Your organising team for 2012 is 7784 Steve Acornley, 5601 Eric Robb, 7264 Gordon Best, 5976 Nigel Seaward plus the crucial support of Wendy Acornley and Pauline Seaward. If there are any others who wish to be part of the team, your word is awaited!

Brickbats and Bouquets. This heading is in respectful memory of 3976 Taffy Morgan who, during the 1950s, had served for several years as a Sergeant in Umtali District. At Inyanga, his station file for Complaints against Police was subtitled Brickbats and Bouquets, split into two sections. Needless to say, the former was filled to over-flowing and the latter very slim, a situation probably common to all stations and no reflection on Inyanga’s much respected Member i/c.

With this in mind, we report that 7343 John (Jock) Bryan of Ayr was inadvertently left out of the list of those attending. Also, the photograph on page 13 of the Summer Outpost is listed as being that of ‘Andy Nicoll and Jim Shiel’ as it is, of course, Bob Smith and David Gall.

On the brighter side, we report on a recent visit from 6610 Jock Pirrett, ex-Chairman and stalwart of the Transvaal Branch of the Association. Jock was on a visit to Scotland and called on Steve in Livingston, and together with his brother David, on Pauline and Nigel in Coldstream. Thank you, Jock, for your very sincere words of encouragement and support, and also for your generous donation towards the 2012 Scottish Gathering. We hope to see both you and David there! Steve Acornley

Responsible consumption of alcohol

An old friend would like to share an experience with you, to do with drinking and driving. As you know, some of us have on occasions had brushes with the authorities on our way home. Well I for one have done something about it. The other night I was out for a dinner and a few drinks and watched the rugby with some friends, having far too much beer, and knowing full well I was wasted, I did something I’ve never done before, I took a bus home. I arrived home safely and without incident, which was a real surprise, as I have never driven a bus before.

6424 Wynn BERRY
Photo Gallery
You have been reading about it - now it has arrived!! It is hoped that photos from the gallery will become a regular feature in forthcoming issues. Photos will initially appear in Force Number order, so if your Force Number is earlier than those shown and you would like your photo added to the gallery, please send a copy to Alan Lane at lanepanda@aol.com preferably at full resolution. Photos of any other members would also be most welcome.
Your are also welcome to request that Alan, when present at any of our functions as official photographer, take a photograph of you in case you now look younger.
**Your Letters**

Members are invited to correspond with the Editor, who declares the right to edit, shorten or decline to acknowledge or print any letters received. Letters appearing to be advertisements (except for BSAP reunions or functions) will be ignored. Advertisements should be sent to the Asst HonSec with the appropriate fee.

The writers of all letters must be identifiable, although their details will not be published if that is the writer’s wish, but, please use a suitable nom-de-plume.

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In Issue 76 there was a piece about ‘Around in Ireland’. There was a C. Steven GOFF in my squad in 1948. Originally from Ireland, he had served in the same unit as my brother in Europe with the Rifle Brigade. I corresponded with him after he left Rhodesia, but lost contact some 50 to 55 years ago. Does anybody have knowledge of him?

4284 Syd Hubbard

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Hi Parry,

Whilst in Durban on UN Mission, I had dinner with 5592 ex-C/Supt Tony James and his wife Esther. They asked me to relay their salaams to old friends and colleagues in the UK.

Cheers. 5662 Barry Henson

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Dear Editor,

With regard to the diminishing numbers attending our events such as the Annual Braai and Regimental Dinner, should the committee not consider making these events bi-annual.

I suspect that in these straitened times, many who would like to attend just cannot afford to do so every year, but may find their interest resuming if held every other year. I would suggest the braai and dinner be held on alternating years. Both Supportive And Poor.

An interesting point of view, if any members have an opinion let me or a committee member know - Ed.

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**The Editor’s House Style**

Correspondents are asked to write in Tahoma10 font, with no space between paragraphs. Dates should be as 16 October 2011, leaving out ‘st’, ‘rd’ and ‘th’ after numbers.

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**The UK Outpost**

**Publication deadlines**

- **Issue 80, Spring 2012**
  - 7 March 2012

- **Issue 81, Summer 2012**
  - 8 June 2012

- **Issue 82, Winter 2012**
  - 30 September 2012
Queensland Newsletter
October 2011

OFC
The August gathering took place at a new venue, The Coffee Club at the Logan Hyperdome, in the interests of those travelling from Mount Tamborine. In the event the gesture was wasted, as neither 6303 Peter Nortje nor 5757 Ian Milton were able to make it. Present were 4727 Mike Edden, 5450 Dick Howlett, 6278 Gerry Dyer, 6604 John Gold, 6969 Billy Budd, 7012 Mike King, 28014Z Mike Hayes and Goofy Lawrence.
The September meeting reverted to Garden City. Present were 4727 Mike Edden, 5450 Dick Howlett, 5757 Ian Milton, 6303 Peter Nortje, 6604 John Gold, 7012 Mike King and 7432 Will Keys.
The usual trivia was discussed at both meetings with Mike Edden and Mike King congratulating themselves on the production of their respective memoirs through Documents on Demand, a business at the Gold Coast Njuzi and The River People
This project went to the binders Documents on Demand for a quote as to whether it should be published as a commercial proposition or merely sent to Memories of Rhodesia in New York. The narrative was going to cost $14 and the colour pictures $56. I will have to see if any of our publishers would be willing to take it on, perhaps in disc form.
Rhodesia Memories - Lockhart
Unfortunately the cost of this production at over $34 is not cost effective so only 10 copies have been produced for family, while a quick re-write removing the pre-and post-Rhodesia has been quoted bringing the cost down to more reasonable proportions. Consequently, the title has been altered from “Lockhart” to “Rhodesia. The Bush War”. (Because of Mike’s remarkable resemblance to ‘D/Insp Lockhart of the Yard’ a popular TV detective of the 60s, Mike was given this nickname – Ed.)
Mike King, having completed his Memoirs is now engaged in completing his first novel.
Local Politics Will Keys advised the OFC that he had resigned from the Liberal National Party and joined Bob Katter’s Australia Party. This surprising piece of news is understandable in view of the selection process used by the LNP. Their loss is Katter’s gain as Will has previous experience of politics in Rhodesia.
Annual Lunch The 2011 Annual Lunch was held at the Take 5 Restaurant Victoria Point run by ex-Karoi Farmers Simon Aston and Theunis Moolman and their Canadian partner. Present were 4727 Mike and Rosemary Edden, 5450 Dick and Jan Howlett, 5757 Ian and Rachel Milton, 5858 Dave and Jean Clinker, 6278 Gerry Dyer, 6303 Peter and Carol Nortje, 6604 John Gold, 6969 Billy Budd, 6994 Colin John and his two guests ex-Internal Affairs Rob and Sandy Knights, 7012 Mike and Ginny King, 10265 Mitch and Debbie Dove, 28014Z Mike Hayes, WFR Jenny Jones and daughter Debbie and Godfrey Lawrence.

(5983) Felicity McMANMON In loving memory of husband John

24
Apologies were received from 5216 Eric and Julie Foulkers, Dave Reeve, Ian Gilbert, 5165 Don and Patricia Silliss, 205169J Margaret and Les Underhay, 6833 Peter Greef, 5865 Roland and Francina De Chazal, 7691 John Ogston, 6940 Jack and Joan Taylor, Louise Bradley, 7861 Mike and Brenda Woods, 25548T Simon and Jacqui Lucas, 7432 Will & Jacki Keys. 6604 Mary Gold, and 6278 Wendy Dyer.

Studying the Menu. From L to R. 5848 Dave Clinker, Jeanie Clinker, member of the public, 28014Z Mike Hayes, 6303 Peter Nortje, Carol Nortje.

Table 3 - L to R. Joan Fletcher, 7638 Gordon Hodnett, Debbie Dove, Mitch Dove

John Gold the photographer (he looked much slimmer and less grey when we were squad mates - Ed.)

6925 Dave DARBY
Of the twenty replies received so far on the question of suitability, service and food, nineteen were very favourable and only one failed to be satisfied. The rest have yet to be answered.

For consideration, I believe that if we use this restaurant again, we will only organize a starter and dessert for $10 only and let each member choose and pay for his or her main course.

(5983) Felicity McMANMON - in loving memory of husband John
The function was completely informal as it is the people we want to see again and again not their clothes. Only Mike Hayes followed the traditional path possibly because he didn’t read his email message properly. The owners were properly thanked for waiving the cost of eight bottles of wine at $20 apiece for the Loyal Toast. For that gesture alone the majority of the members are keen to use the place again. It was only after the lunch was over was I informed that the cold room had broken down that morning and being a Sunday they could not get it repaired that day so had to ferry all the contents to their neighbouring franchise restaurant Fasta Pasta and then ferry it all back again to meet their customers’ orders. They handled this problem so well that only one of our members failed to be satisfied. 5450 Dick Howlett took a video of the occasion which is available from The Queensland Branch, as are photographs just released of the 2010 Annual Lunch, the July 2011 Club lunch and the 2011 Annual lunch.

History Section

This year marks the centenary of the publication of The Police Review. To commemorate that event John Berry has produced a DVD of all the issues of the Police Review from 1911-1914. These are scanned images of original copies of the magazine and are fully searchable in PDF format. They form a significant part of the history of the BSAP and should be part of the collection of any BSAP historian. They will shortly be available from Bertie Cubitt at a cost of £5 + p & p. John Berry’s introduction is produced below.

In 1909, Troopers W.B. Bussy and E.A. Banning, stationed at Gwanda, discussed the possibility of starting a British South Africa Police magazine on the lines of the Cape Mounted Police magazine. After much effort and manoeuvring, in March 1911 the first issue of The Police Review was published in Bulawayo. This was the Headquarters of ‘K’ Troop of which Trooper Bussy (Regimental No. 1084) was a member. Captain R.E. Murray (later of Murray’s Column fame) was the Officer Commanding and supported the venture. Bussy was the first Editor and driving force behind the new magazine.

At the time the country was divided into various Troop Districts of which ‘K’ Troop was one. Until official recognition was achieved after a few months, the magazine bore the name ‘K’ Troop in its masthead, as illustrated below.

4960 Gerry GIBSON
The History Section (continued)

In 1909, Troopers W.B. Bussy and E.A. Banning, stationed at Gwanda, discussed the possibility of starting a British South Africa Police magazine on the lines of the Cape Mounted Police magazine. After much effort and manoeuvring, in March 1911 the first issue of The Police Review was published in Bulawayo. This was the Headquarters of 'K' Troop of which Trooper Bussy (Regimental No. 1084) was a member. Captain R.E. Murray (later of Murray's Column fame) was the Officer Commanding and supported the venture. Bussy was the first Editor and driving force behind the new magazine.

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The July 1911 issue trumpeted the news that Headquarters in Salisbury had now approved The Police Review as the official regimental magazine and this issue bore the new masthead.

A detailed account of the birth and subsequent growth of The Police Review is to be found in the December 1913 issue. The author used the non-de-plume 'K' Troop', but was probably Bussy, who, like all good editors, wrote much of the material himself.

The magazine went from strength to strength until, in 1914, with World War I imminent and other military units being raised in the country, it was decided to change the name of the magazine to The Rhodesia Defence Force Journal in order to report on the activities of all these units. In 1923 the name was changed again to The Outpost and reverted to catering solely for the B.S.A. Police. The last issue relating to the British South Africa Police was that of May 1980. The name carried on but was now the magazine of the Zimbabwe Republic Police.

Present day readers of The Police Review may find the style of writing old-fashioned and unsophisticated and words such as Empire, Home, Duty somewhat quaint now, but that is the way it was 100 years ago. It is none the worse for this and has much of interest in the ways things were in a very new Rhodesia.

John Berry
August 2011
While serving with the BTP in Glasgow, I met a BSAP detail on leave. Impressed, I soon applied and was accepted, attesting on the 27th April, 1959 with 5 squad of 59. I saw service in Salisbury Province, and in 1960 married my fiancée, Moira. Promoted to Sergeant in July 1964 and posted to i/c APR. Highfields, and then as Charge Office Section Officer, before Highlands under George Stuart as i/c enquiries. Promoted to Inspector June 1969 and posted to Southerton, as i/c investigations with C/Insp John Marsh and then as i/c Admin. I took 6 months leave in 1971 and was posted to i/c Traffic Mobile on my return. During the traffic days I did a Diploma in Personnel Management at the Salisbury Polytec. and transferred to PGHQ as Asst. to SO (Training) and got a place at University of Rhodesia to study a degree in Adult Education but fell foul of the brass at PGHQ who believed that policemen didn’t get degrees. I resigned from the Force to take up place at UCR but soon found myself back at PGHQ as a Reservist doing what I had originally wanted, to get a degree.

On resigning I got a job as Personnel Manager at Rhodesia Pulp and Paper Industries and in 1980 became the Group Personnel Manager and then Human Resources Director with the amalgamation of Rhopulp and Amalgamated Packaging Industries and Rhodesia Packing in Bulawayo. The new group was named the Hunyani Paper and Packaging Group. I lost Moira in 1982, and married Susan in 1984 who was a Divisional director of Minet Insurance Brokers, who handled Hunyani’s insurance portfolio. I left in 1986 to start my own business, M.B.B. (Pvt) Ltd. which I ran until 2009. I left Zimbabwe for a variety of reasons; citizenship removed from both my wife and self, savings plundered when the dollar collapsed, no running water for 12 months, no refuse collection for 11 months, no electricity for 16 to 18 hours per day and the cost of medicines was too high. We came back to the UK in April, 2009 through the RBLI, like so many others but whilst there I was incensed by the MP.’s scandal and wrote to David Cameron offering my services. He suggested local government and I underwent an in-depth interview with Maidstone and the Weald Conservative Party, and was offered the opportunity to stand as a Councillor for Maidstone Borough Council in the Fant ward. I was absolutely shattered, and delighted, to win against the standing Lib Dem candidate and now undertake Council duties for the next four years - not bad for a 75 year old.

6001 Alistair Black
With Whitwell Hotel and Conference Centre at Rutland Water closing, it was necessary to find an alternative venue. After much searching Lilleshall Sports Centre situated near Telford in Shropshire selected as the new venue.

For those members who did not make the weekend perhaps a brief history of Lilleshall might be appropriated. “The Lilleshall estate was purchased by James Leveson in 1543, after it ceased to be an abbey in the dissolution, with the family living in the house until the Civil War. The Royalists gained the Lilleshall estate until 1645 when it then fell to the Parliament troops. The estate was later returned to the family, who extended their power through a series of marriages and allegiances. In 1831 the building of the main house was completed and used as the hunting lodge and family retreat for the Dukes of Sutherland.

In 1915, one year after the fifth Duke succeeded to the seat at the age of 25, he sold the entire estate except Lilleshall Hall and 50 acres of gardens. He later decided he wanted to live closer to London and sold the remainder of the estate in 1917 to Sir John Lee.

Many estates were left in ruin after World War II and Lilleshall was no exception. Repairing them to pre-World War II state was expensive and the social revolution that had occurred meant they were very much more expensive to run.

Lilleshall

The sports centre was opened in 1951 by HM Queen Elizabeth II (then HRH the Princess Elizabeth) with funding from South Africa. Annual summer schools were held for the governing bodies of many major sports including
cricket, archery, athletics, fencing, judo, weightlifting, basketball, soccer, netball, and tennis. Following the success of the summer schools, more and more governing bodies came to look upon Lilleshall as their own national and regional coaching or squad training centre. Perhaps the most famous residential stay in Lilleshall’s long history was that of the victorious 1966 England World Cup team. The Football Association’s School of Excellence was established at Lilleshall in 1984 but closed in the summer of 1999. Lilleshall is now one of four National Sports Centres and houses the administrative headquarters for many leading British sporting associations.”

Those attending the braai but arriving early had the opportunity to visit any of the local attractions, the most famous being the nearby Iron Bridge. As usual, the Reunion Centre (below) was set up the day before by Alan Toms assisted by Taffy and Sue Roberts and Alan Crook. This entails a considerable amount of work and effort with an ever increasing amount of BSAP memorabilia and audio/visual displays. On display for the first time were the ‘Elliot Archive’ photographs taken by 1752 F Elliot between 1913 and 1927, including some of a previously unknown mobile column sent to the Transvaal border in 1914 to deal with the “Maritz” Rebellion as well as photos taken during the WW1 campaign in German East Africa when he was one of those attached to Murray’s Column. Photos and narrative of the early days of Support Unit from material supplied by Ian Dunbar, one of the founder members of the Unit was also displayed. It was pleasing to see the number of members spending so much time looking at the displays over the weekend. Those staying on the Friday night understandably gravitated to the on-site ‘watering hole’ after supper for the usual drink and gossip. (One can only imagine what the young and fit looking athletes also relaxing in the bar were thinking when they saw us ‘oldies’ - there were no courses available for our age group.)

On Saturday members, wives, partners and guests started to arrive and gather in the room set aside for us next to the all-important bar and Reunion Centre and adjacent to the patio area where the braai would take place. Unfortunately the weather was a little too cold to brave the patio in the evening, so events took place inside.

The Reunion Centre

Food is served
Throughout the evening everyone was meeting old acquaintances, chatting happily and generally enjoying themselves. The food for the braai, prepared and cooked by the Centre’s cooks, was plentiful and appeared to go down well. A small raffle was held during the evening which raised the very good sum of £218 for Association funds. It was a pleasure to be able to welcome 7045 Bob and Laurie Gates from Australia, 6194 Ron and Anne Shardlow, 7389 Taffy and Sue Roberts, 7751 Alan Crook and 9139 Jo Saunders all from South Africa for the occasion. Also showing their faces and enjoying the weekend were: 4882 Peter Dancer, 5248 Alan and Pauline Lane, 5358 Mick York, 5398 Tim Potter, 5486 Mick and May Wood, 5508 Gordon and Eve Norris, 5625 Biff Way, 5659 Henry ‘Hoppy’ Hopkins, 5662 Barry Henson, 5975 Mike and Audrey Abbotts, 6514/7562 Chris and Anne Johnson, 6605 Cy and Ronnie Hartley, 6609 Parry Jones, 6629 George Glibbery, 6630 Jim Hazlett, 6632 Gerry and Jane Paxton, 7207 Arnold and 203679 Paula Woolley, 7211 Peter Biddulph, 7225 Keith and Judy Brown.
7391 Alan and Lyn Toms, 7612 Jerry and Janice Rickson, 7982 Peter and Liz Marshall, 7964 Stuart Thomson, 8009 Peter Butler, 8163 Robbie and WP199 Lin Robertson, 9086 Tony Granger and Penny Timmis, 9565 Jim Bowie, 10434 Andy and Tracy Bijl, 900434 Julian and Pat Pellatt, 204556 Caroline Witts, P/R David Bullock, Anne Derham and Don and Coral Milborrow.

Accommodation, whilst not as luxurious as that of a hotel, was functional and what would be expected at a residential sports centre. *(I disagree with that, I thought my room was as good as most hotels at which I stay, but in what sort of hotels do I stay? Ed.)* The other facilities and grounds were excellent, the staff helpful and the food good and plentiful *(although breakfast between 7.30am and 8.30am, even on the Sunday morning, was a little early for some.)* Lilleshall Hall has been tentatively booked for 3 and 4 August 2012 - so for next year watch out for the next issue of *The Outpost* and get your application in early.

Text and photos by Alan Lane

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**DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

Social on first Tuesday of every month at the VSC starting 17.30

Sunday, 13 November 2011, 10.15 Remembrance Service at St Margaret’s Church, next to Westminster Abbey.

Tuesday 6 December 2011 - BSAP Christmas Party at The VSC commencing 17.30 till 22.30

Saturday 12 May 2012 - BSAP AGM at The VSC, commencing at 11.00

Saturday 4 August 2012 - Lilleshall Braai - see the advert in the next Outpost.

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**‘Weapons of Mass Destruction’**

**The Zimbabwe Connection**

*Harry Naismith (7795)* announces the publication of his book on Amazon, in paperback and e-book form.

Brian Callison, the internationally renowned author who penned bestsellers such as “Flock of Ships”, “The Bone Collectors” and many others, said:

‘This debut novel is a cracker written by someone who’s been there. Mr Naismith offers a fascinating insight into the gun-oil, reeking courage and fear, and sometimes-cynical self-contemptuous world of those who risk their lives as military ‘contractors’ in the most violent arenas of Africa. From Zimbabwe to Iraq, to its violent denouement, *Weapons Of Mass Destruction* will keep the eyes of every armchair mercenary firmly glued to the pages.’

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(4743) June MORGAN in loving memory of husband John
New Members of the UK Branch
and amendments to contact details

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Please let the HonSec or Asst HonSec know of any changes of address, (additional) phone numbers, or changes of e-mail addresses. They are not prescient (even if they might appear to be so) and failure to keep your details up-to-date may result in you not receiving important communications, and, if caught out, parading behind the guard.
‘So Far & So Good’

‘A book crammed with humour & heartache, adventure & industry, combat & love.’

Born on the flat roof of a house in Omdurman, Sudan in 1931, Denis Petmezaki has battled the odds throughout his varied and inspiring life. From London during the Blitz, to the Rhodesian Bush War and the terrors of the Mugabe regime and finally on to Britain and Australia, he has overcome every obstacle. **Available by E-mail**: nkosi22@bigpond.com or ring 61 89572 1621 (Western Australia) to order, or **write to** C. Petmezaki, 250 Alison Street, Mount Helena 6082 Western Australia

**So Far & So Good** by Denis Charles Petmezaki

Will Yeoman Western Australia News: ‘His prose is elegant; his tone often humorous and self-deprecating, Petmezaki paints a fascinating portrait not just of a successful businessman, family man and member of the British South Africa Police Reserve but of life in pre - and post - independent Rhodesia.’

Review by Dr Douglas Sutherland - Bruce. Swan Magazine, July 2011 ‘So Far & So Good’. In his delightfully ironic poem *The Unknown Citizen* WH Auden pens the lines: "When there was peace, he was for peace: when there was war, he went."

Denis writes in an easy conversational tone with amazing attention to detail over Denis's adventures over 3 continents. I commend this book to your attention as a good autobiography, a good window into the recent past and most of all, a book that extols the virtues of the ordinary man, simply doing the best he could with the job in front of him.

Wendy O’Hanlon ‘Acres Australia’ March 2011: It’s like a hand-written letter from an old friend. Denis’ insights on life in Africa and Australia (as an immigrant) make compelling reading - like being a fly on the wall (complete with a glossary). This is an intelligent, insightful, emotional work worthy of a reader’s attention.

John Morrow - ‘Pick of the week’: I feel pleased for his future generations that he has written his story - it will serve as a legacy to them all that a world different from their own did exist.

Kate Burnside: This book of zest is fire in the belly stuff for anyone who has had to overcome obstacles in life. For those who need to turn disaster into some form of good or benefit, this man of courage will be a true inspiration.

Memory of Hank HANKINSON
In July 1965, I was a patrol officer at Enquiry Section, Waterfalls, having recently moved there after eighteen months in Information Room, driving B-cars, the high-speed patrol cars. I had been interviewed for transfer to CID, and was on the waiting list. SO Jock Magowan was my section head, and was giving me a hard time with my dockets. The slightest error - typographical, spelling, or just incompetence in any of my documentation was returned to me with big red lines through, endorsed, ‘redo’, and the offending words ringed, or that especially hated word, ‘Speak’, which presaged a lecture. PO Hugh Frost was my opposite number on Enquiries, who was investigating property offences, while I was the violence and traffic investigator. The violence consisted of drunken brawls and minor traffic accidents where no more than minor injuries were received, although I did investigate a murder. This was another drunken brawl where one of the drunks had used an Okapi knife. The accused was known and was waiting at the murder scene, so there was no great investigative skill required in this case. However, that did not stop me, the aspiring detective, in making a complete hash-up of the case. I kept the accused in the cells too long, so he was released - time expired, and had to be re-arrested. I messed up with the post-mortem by attending it late, and then didn’t record the statements properly. Jock Magowan had been on leave. At his trial, before a magistrate, the accused was found guilty of common assault and sentenced to three months IHL. Years later, when I was an experienced murder detective I sometimes quoted that case to probationer detectives as an example of how not to investigate a murder.

The Member i/c was Inspector Jim Gilbert, who had, as a Sergeant, been my law and police instructor in Depot. When he received the murder docket back from court, he waved it in front of me and sadly shook his head.

SO George Hatch was the Charge Office SO looking after the beat patrols and front office. It was while I was at Waterfalls that Cst Langa was found murdered in a school playing field whilst on foot patrol. We had an unannounced visit from the Commissioner, but besides checking on the progress of the investigations, his main concern was with Cst Langa’s widow and family. The murder was investigated by DI Bill Crossan. Derek Matheson, a squad mate, and Jim Hazlett, who had also been in Depot with me had both just joined CID, and were also part of the team. Seeing just a bit of Bill leading his team greatly enhanced my desire to join him and the rest of CID.
Bill Crossan has recently told me the investigation was hindered to a large extent by certain very senior officers who had convinced themselves that a stock-thief had committed the murder, whereas all the evidence was suggestive of a residential housebreaker.

The lengthy and arduous investigation eventually resulted in the arrested of Michael, a notorious housebreaker with many previous convictions, who Cst Langa had stopped for questioning while Michael was carrying a large bundle of clothing. Michael was, after a lengthy trial was sentenced 10 years IHL. The Judge and assessors finding that Michael had co-operated with the CID and that the required \textit{mens rea} (a blameworthy state of mind associated and accompanied by conduct without which the crime cannot be said to have been committed) was absent. They arrived at the conclusion that Michael stabbed Cst Langa in an attempt to secure his release but he did not have the intention to kill him. Yet, he was found guilty of murder, and without extenuating circumstances, the penalty for that was death.

Bill Crossan, amongst many, was appalled at the sentence and Bill was going to resign but was talked out of it by C/Supt Jack (The Hat) Denley, who was later Commissioner of the BSAP.

The school in whose playing field Cst Langa died, made a collection among parents, pupils and staff and a small brass memorial plaque was erected in his memory in the school hall. Although I was, as Enquiry Section, normally working 0800 to 1630 I was expected, in common with all other ‘office hours’ policemen, to work out-of-hours if required or to accommodate witnesses when recording statements. Overtime! What’s that?

One Sunday, I was working 1400 to 2200, relieving a Charge Office detail on leave. Shortly after I started I received a call of a serious incident about a mile from the police station, but the report was confusing, and I did not know what I was going to. We did that in the BSAP; we didn’t stand back waiting for a risk assessment or armed back-up. Like Bob the Builder - we could do it, and we did.

The station Land-Rover was being used, so I attended on the Enquiry Section motor-cycle, to find a nine year-old African boy, had climbed onto the corrugated iron roof of a garage to retrieve his football, kicked there as kids will. While on the roof, the boy had touched a supposedly insulated overhead electrical cable, about a foot above the roof level, but the insulation had disintegrated in the sun. He suffered an immediate and deep electric shock and burns.

From what witnesses said, I realised what had happened, and knew the roof might still be alive. I jumped at the roof with one hand, reckoning that if it was live, I would feel a shock but my body weight would break any connection and all I would
receive was a slight shock. I felt nothing, so climbed up onto the roof, and pulled the boy away from the cable, making sure neither of us touched it. He had obviously touched the wire with both of his wrists as the inside surface of both were burned through to the bone, but he was still alive but not breathing. I started artificial resuscitation - Holger-Nielsen - we hadn’t yet learned mouth-to-mouth Cardio-Pulmonary Resuscitation (CPR). I called upon one of the bystanders, amongst who were the boy’s parents, to send for an ambulance. After about 30 minutes, with still no ambulance, the station Land-Rover pitched up, and the constable driver called that Central (Salisbury Central Information Room) was calling for me and wanting to know where I was. I told him to tell Central where I was and what I was doing. He called Central up on the radio. Still, no ambulance. The ambulance service was, as was much in Rhodesia at that time, racially segregated, although administered by Europeans. Because of pressure by Africans for more control of their services, control of the African ambulance service had been very recently handed entirely over to Africans. My wait was doubly frustrating, as I could see Harare hospital (where the African ambulance service was based) about four miles away over the vlei. After another 15 minutes, the Duty Inspector arrived, rather cross, wanting to know what I was about and wanting to know what I was doing. I told him in no uncertain terms. ‘Can’t you f***ing see what I’m f***ing doing’, and then ‘Get the f***ing ambulance here now’. The Inspector got in his car and drove off. He went to Harare Hospital and apparently verbally and physically impressed an ambulance and crew to immediately get to me, while persuading a doctor to get into his car, to come and treat the child. On arrival, the doctor, who had been told what to expect, immediately climbed onto the roof, checked the child, said there was still a faint pulse, and injected him with a dose of adrenaline. By this time the ambulance had arrived. At about the same time, ESC (Electrical Supply Commission) arrived and isolated the electrical supply. Unfortunately, after some time, despite the doctor giving resuscitation as well, the child was pronounced dead. I still had to get the body-box, get the boy off the roof and to the mortuary, and then complete the necessary paperwork. I was somewhat nervous as I thought the Inspector might report me for insubordination for the way in which I’d spoken to him, but I think he realised I was a bit stressed and frustrated. I never heard anything more, not even a ‘well tried’ - but then, that’s the BSAP. As I reported for duty one morning, Jim Gilbert told me to draw a pistol from the armoury and go to a farm...
bordering the Seki Reserve, where a large gang of tribesmen were stealing timber from the farm. On arrival, the farmer indicated the tribesmen, some three to four hundred members of the Apostolic Church, dressed in their white robes. They were holding a prayer meeting, but I approached and one of the deacons detached himself and we were speaking. My motor-bike, with my pistol in the pannier, was about fifty yards away, but all was quiet with the tribesmen silently praying. Suddenly, behind me was an almighty yelling and screeching from the crowd. I leapt about ten feet into the air, spinning as I rose to face the mob. The prayers had ended in their joint ecstasy, released by the shouting. The deacon called upon his congregation, and they all quietly returned across the Hunyani River to the TTL, and I shakily returned to Waterfalls.

A month or two later, I was again relieving in the charge office, when I received a report from the Information Room, of a stock theft at a farm to the north of and bordering the St Mary’s Settlement, a large sprawling shanty township on the south side of the Hunyani River and west of Salisbury airport. I mounted my motor-cycle, with Cst Christopher on the pillion, and went to the farm where I spoke with the farmer who, some distance from the homestead, indicated the remains of a yearling calf, the entire hindquarters of which were missing. Dog Section had arrived shortly before me, and were already casting for scent, although the dog appeared more interested in the remaining fresh meat. After a short while and a few sharp words, the dog was on a trail, leading north. The farmer and I looked at each other but said nothing. After the dog had tracked for about 400 metres, it appeared to lose the scent, hunted around for a minute or two, and then the PO returned with his dog, which hadn’t lost its interest in the exhibit. The PO reported that the thief had gone north, but the scent was then lost. There was nothing more he could do, and off he went. I wasn’t particularly impressed, but then, I sometimes think the police dogs write their handler’s report. The farmer looked at me. I looked at the ground.

The farmer called to one of his Africans, a small scruffy runt, of about 40 - 50 years, and they spoke in some language – neither English nor chiShona. The farmer told me, that his tracker was indicating the skellum (villain, he was very specific on the singular) had gone south with the stolen meat, and that he, the tracker would follow the spoor. Now I hadn’t been too confident with the dog search, and thought I’d go along with the tracker and Cst Christopher and see what transpired. The time now was about 0800. Besides, the farmer obviously expected me to accompany the tracker. The tracker followed the apparent spoor (which I couldn’t see, except for one or two blood spots well apart,
and then only after the tracker had pointed them out to me) for about one-and-a-half to two kilometres to the Hunyani settlement. We must have walked at a fairly good pace, because it was only a little after 0830 when we got there. The tracker then went through the township, on dirt roads and paths, which by then was swarming with people, bicycles, cars and buses, for another 800 to 1,000 metres and directly to a shanty, where, on opening the ramshackle door, I saw an African male busy butchering the hindquarters of a yearling calf.

I don’t know who was more surprised; me or the accused, but he at least made a full confession. Let’s face it - he’d have had difficulty in having a denial believed.

I then went to the township police post, where I phoned S/O Jock Magowan and asked him to get somebody to drive a Land Rover to collect us, the accused and exhibit. I was dropped off at the farm with the tracker to collect my motor-bike, and spoke with the farmer. I told him how his tracker had followed the spoor so quickly and unerringly, but also that he had done so through a crowded township directly to the main exhibit. The farmer didn’t appear at all surprised.

I don’t recall what the stock thief received, probably two years IHL. The exhibit was photographed at Waterfalls and then returned to the farmer as ‘perishable’. The tracker and his family ate well for a few days, as, no doubt, did his neighbours. In later years I never lost my faith in the trackers, whether white or black. Even if the tracker dog had followed the scent to the settlement, there is no way it could have continued into it with so many disturbances.

On the 10 November 1965 we were all told we had to be on duty at our police station at 0800 on the 11 November. Compulsory parade - no excuses save death would be acceptable. Rumour was rife - Ian Smith was to unilaterally declare independence (UDI). At 1030 all the European staff assembled in the single quarters, while Jim Gilbert took out a large brown envelope from his briefcase. He opened it, and we saw another large brown envelope, sealed with red wax and with ‘Top Secret’ stamped all over it in red. Jim opened that and read out the preliminary orders from the Commissioner. We were all working 12 hour shifts with immediate effect, and a couple of the charge office staff went onto riot-standby, and to report to Cranborne Barracks by 1600. Then at 1100 we switched on the radio and listened to Ian Smith and his declaration of UDI.

Shortly after I was sent to evict a BBC TV crew from some land, where they were interviewing local labourers, which I did. One of the crew had been in Highbury School in London with me a few year before. A month later, on the 15 December 1965, two days after my daughter, Heulwen, was born, I transferred to...
CID, Crimes of Violence Section, under Bill Crossan.
The hard time that Jock Magowan gave me was well-intentioned. I
learned a lot from Jock, and, as he said, just before I transferred, ‘In
CID, your dockets have to be perfect, and if they’re not, you’ll be back in

uniform, ye ken’. I found I had good cause to be thankful to Jock.

Parry Jones

Stop Press - DCI Bill Crossan died in Johannesburg on the 28 October 2011 after a long illness. A great man, a great detective. His passing is greatly regretted by me and many others - Ed.

A Potted History of the ... Almoner

I attested on the 15th December 1964 as P/O 7211 on a shortened course (having completed nearly three years service in the Stoke-on-Trent City Force.)
After Depot I went to Salisbury Central for a few months, then to Southerton, Machipisa, Harare, Matapi, then back to Salisbury Central Information Room. I may have been posted to Salisbury Province as I played soccer for the BSAP 1st XI as a forward.
I passed promotion to uniform Section Officer in 1968 and was sent back to Salisbury South.
In 1972 I transferred to Staff Branch at HQ’s Finance Section and shortly after went to SBHQ as their admin officer.
I passed promotion to S/Insp in 1973 and transferred to Gwelo, suffering 12 months there before returning to HQ on promotion to S/C/I in 1976. I retired on 1 June 1980.
After 18 months living in Jo’burgh I returned to UK and joined Kent Police. I worked almost entirely in CID until I retired in 1997 and continued as a civilian employee for another 10yrs - retiring in 2008 as Office Manager of the Fraud Squad.
Now Maggie and I have small business storing caravans. We have a big garden, I play some golf and fully support Maggie in her children’s educational charity work in Malawi. I have two sons, two grand-daughters, one partner - Maggie - a 91yrs old Mum and one Labrador.
I have the only job I wanted on the Committee and am deeply committed to helping ALL MEMBERS of the Association for three years minimum.

Peter Biddulph

(4414) Moira STENNER - in loving memory of husband Raymond
Obituaries

It is with regret that we report the following deaths. The Chairman and committee, on behalf of all members extend their sympathy to family and friends of those who have departed.

4586 Gilbert Samuel (Bert) Selley
died on 13 June 2009 in Dundee, Scotland. This sad news only recently came to the notice of the UK Branch of the Association to which Bert was a member. Bert served from 16 March 1950 to 15 March 1953, leaving as his own request with the rank of Constable. He later joined the Kenya Police and was involved in operations against the Mau Mau before returning to the United Kingdom in 1964.

9463 Clive Richard Boddy
died on 5 June 2011 in Harare, Zimbabwe. Clive, who was a member of the Mashonaland Branch of the Association, served from 10 July 1974 to 16 December 1979, leaving as his own request, with the rank of Patrol Officer.

FR 6707
Milton John Bishop
McGarrick
died on 3 July 2011 in Cornwall, England at the age of 97 years. Milton, who was a member of the UK Branch of the Association and one of our oldest members, he served as a Field Reservist from 1957 to 1978.

5634 William Henry (Bill) Royle
died on 18 June 2011 at his home in Sale, Cheshire, England from cancer. Bill, a member of the UK Branch of the Association, served from 10 February 1957 to 16 March 1967, leaving on gratuity in the rank of Inspector.

5197 Michael John Peter (Mac)
McGuiness OLM, PMM
died on 4 July 2011 in Pretoria, South Africa, following a brutal attack in his home a few days earlier - he was 78 years old. Mac joined the Force on 3 January 1954 and soon moved to the CID serving in the Midlands. He later transferred to the SB and during the latter part of his service became deeply involved with military units, particularly the Selous Scouts, and anti-terrorist intelligence work. Mac was a keen footballer and represented CID teams in the 1960s. Mac served until 30 April 1980, leaving the Force on retirement, with the rank of Chief Superintendent.

9962 Ian VENTERs - in memory of The Victorians
10472 Peter Hercules Palmer died on 10 July 2011 in St Anne’s Hospital, Harare, Zimbabwe. Peter, who was a member of the Mashonaland Branch of the Association, served from 8 March 1978 to 31 July 1980 when he transferred to the Zimbabwe Republic Police Force where he continued to serve until 2 July 1981, leaving at his own request in the rank of Patrol Officer.

8160 Brian Kirkpatrick Wren died on 24 July 2011 in Gaberone, Botswana. Brian served from 28 December 1968 to 27 December 1971, leaving as his own request, with the rank of Patrol Officer.

4521 Philip Gordon (Phil) Mingard died on 31 July 2011 in Pietermaritzburg, South Africa. Phil joined the force on 13 December 1949 and was mostly involved with police administration during his career. He was involved in police rugby administration and motor sport, being the stalwart of the BSA Police Car Club. Phil held the post of Senior Staff Officer (Administration) at the time of his retirement on 31 August 1976, leaving with the rank of Assistant Commissioner. Phil was instrumental in the formation of the Natal Midlands Branch of the Association in 2000 and served as its Chairman until 2008.

5877 John Angus Hamilton Mackinnon died on 6 August 2011 in Harare, Zimbabwe after suffering for a long time with emphysema. John served from 1 September 1958 to 31 July 1980 when he transferred to the Zimbabwe Republic Police where he continued to serve until 15 May 1983 retiring from that Force with the rank of Chief Superintendent. After his retirement, John worked for Fawcett’s Security.

Greg McManus died on 24 August 2011 in Auckland, New Zealand from cancer. Greg was not a former member of BSA Police. He was in fact a member of Northern Rhodesia Police and as there were few former NRP members in New Zealand he was invited to join the New Zealand Branch of our Association as an Associate Member. He became the New Zealand Branch Secretary/Treasurer, a post he held for many years.


5436 David Thomas Champion died on 4 September 2011 in Alicante, Spain. David, who was a member of the UK Branch of the Association, served from 20 January 1956 to 8 November 1961 leaving with the rank of Constable.

110627 Stephen George Cavanagh died on 9 September 2011 in Durban, South Africa. Stephen served from 28 August 1978 to 31 July 1980 when he transferred to the Zimbabwe Republic Police where he served until 3 May 1981 leaving that Force with the rank of Patrol Officer.
Norma POOLE (11/03/41 - 12/08/11) the wife of 6348 Dennis POOLE, was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer on 20 January this year and passed away at home on 12 August. Norma arrived in Rhodesia in March 1964 at the start of what should have been a three year nursing contract at Salisbury Central Hospital. It was not to be! Dennis was on CID night observation duties around the children’s ward during the last week of May, whilst Norma was Night Superintendent (she was the only sister on her duty team with a midwifery qualification - at just 23). They went out for the first time on Saturday 30 May and at lunchtime on Monday, 1 June, Dennis had bought an engagement ring and proposed. The answer was obvious, and all within 40 hours. They returned to UK, Norma having had to serve 6 months of her contract before buying herself out, and married on the 14 November and in due time had two daughters. Norma continued to serve the communities of South West Suffolk and North West, Essex for the next 36 years as a District Nurse, Midwife and for the last 16 years before retiring in 2000, as a manager in Suffolk Social Service. Norma would have been known to several contemporaries who were married to, or girlfriends of members of the Force stationed in and around Salisbury at this time.

PR 12134 Clive Errington Holmes died on 11 September 2011 in Freemantle, Western Australia. Clive had not been well for some time. He farmed for many years in the north Karoi area and was the elder brother of 7285 Ian Holmes.

PR 2222 Harold Victor (Harry) McKinley died on 20 September 2011 in Johannesburg, South Africa. He had been admitted to hospital to undergo surgery and sadly died of heart failure. Harry had served in the Northern Rhodesia Police but eventually settled in the Chiredzi area where he was extremely well known and participated actively in PATU. He was a very active member of the Transvaal Branch of the Association, seldom missing a monthly gathering or social event.

4808 Donald Hugh (Don) Russell died on 22 September 2011 in hospital in Portimao, Portugal - he had been very ill since he had an operation on 1 August. Don, who was a member of the UK Branch of the Association, served from 5 November 1951 to 31 July 1980 when he transferred to the Zimbabwe Republic Police where he continued to serve until 5 July 1981 retiring from that Force with the rank of Assistant Commissioner. Don moved to Portugal where he operated a seasonal bar at Praia da Rocha on the Algarve until 2004 when he retired and went to live in Portimao.

WFR 200987 Margaret E. Woodhead died on 28 September 2011 in her home near Romford, Essex, England, aged 91 years. For her service in Rhodesia, she was awarded the medal for Meritorious Service, the Police Reserve medal For Faithful Service and the Rhodesian General Service Medal.

(5479) Jan LEACH In loving memory of Michael
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Jeanne MAY - in loving memory of Rick

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