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The BSAP Regimental Association website is www.bsap.org

4539 Hugh Alexander - in Loving memory of my wife, Yvonne
I am writing this in the aftermath of the Annual Dinner and prior to our Christmas gathering. The dinner was, I am delighted to say, a very successful event with a much improved attendance. The 75 of us present included a number of guests who, I gather, found the company interesting. This year’s speaker, Judge Robert Hardy (also known as 5803 Cst Bob Hardy), set just the right tone, reminiscing about his days in the force juxtaposed against his subsequent career. The response, and toast to Absent Friends, from 111697 Charles Bennett, was of a high standard and well received. I did note that for the first time in my recollection, there were no 46ers present. The end of an era? I hope not. My thanks to Parry Jones for his organisation, Mick York for handling the raffle plus contributions from Bertie Cubitt and Lin Robertson.

The Remembrance Day service at the Rhodesia plot at Westminster Abbey will be on Sunday 11 November. Peter Biddulph and I will be taking an active part and it would be very pleasing to see some members in support.

After that we anticipate our Christmas Sundowner and I look forward to seeing you there. Hopefully we won’t have a repeat of last year’s gas leak so please bring yourselves and a raffle prize, on 4 December and support this event.

You will see elsewhere prior notice of our plans to celebrate the Centenary of the Regimental Association next year. Believing that we had done our bit, we had hoped that another branch would organise a world-wide event. This was not to be but some branches, like us, will have local celebrations. See a pre-notification on page 18. We can’t hope to repeat The Last Parade but we’ll do our best.

We have been exercised of late on the subject of headwear. It has been noted that on parade occasions, our military counterparts wear some form of headgear and there have been suggestions that we might do the same. Suggestions are beret, stable hat, panama, trilby, and hat, soft blue, all suitably adorned with an appropriate badge or indeed, nothing. The committee would be pleased if you have a view. Should we have some headwear and if so, what?

I look forward to seeing more of you in 2013 but, in the meantime, I will get in early and wish you the compliments of the season and all you would wish for yourselves for the new year.

6905 Peter Phillips

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Jewish Proverb
One of life's greatest mysteries is how the boy who wasn’t good enough to marry your daughter can be the father of the smartest grandchild in the world.

Heard on London Underground
'Your delay this evening is caused by the line controller suffering from E & B syndrome: not knowing his elbow from his backside.

5111 Jack Bacon - in memory of Vince Hustler
Another edition is fast approaching the deadline. Thank you to all of you who contribute stories, adventures, anecdotes, poems and jokes. They are all greatly appreciated and to those whose epistles have yet to be published, I ask for your patience. They will appear.

My thanks again to Alan Lane for his reports on the monthly gatherings at the VSC and the many photographs he supplies, not only of those events but also others, such as the Regimental Dinner.

Among you all there must be a plethora of interesting tales to tell, not only of your adventures and experiences in the BSAP, but others, both inside and out of Rhodesia. For example, I joined the Royal Papua New Guinea Constabulary after my time with the BSAP (as did some others). The policing there was so similar and yet so very dissimilar. I have a number of tales I must put to paper, but I do not want this magazine to contain articles by me. It is for you, and you, and all of you.

Don’t be hesitant, get out your pen and paper, or typewriter, or computer and send me your articles. If you are not confident about your writing skills, do not be. If you can record statements that satisfied your member i/c, then you can produce stories for The Outpost. There is a wealth of fascinating adventure held by you, which needs to be shared. Let me have them for posterity and publication.

I would prefer articles sent by e-mail - that way I do not have to transcribe them onto my system. If you send them by e-mail use a Tahoma 10 point font, left justified with no spaces between paragraphs (I don’t care what your Member i/c said, my style sheet and copy editor say this way) and with a paragraph indentation of 0.5 cm. My style-sheet for publications specifies that names consist of force number (if a member) first name and surname all in lower case, but with the surname in bold. Photographs or plans to illustrate the story would be most welcome.

My wife was standing naked, looking in the bedroom mirror. She was not happy with what she saw and said to me, "I feel horrible; I look old, fat and ugly. I really need you to pay me a compliment.' I replied, ‘Your eyesight’s near perfect.’ And then the fight started.

I rear-ended a car this morning. The start of a really bad day. The driver got out of the other car, and he was a dwarf. He looked up at me and said 'I am not Happy.' So I said, 'Well, which one are you then?' That's how the fight started.
HonSec’s Bleat (Not Really)

In the last edition I mentioned the 8000s and 9000s and the fact there were members who could join the Association and thus bring a new and younger group into membership. The e-mails that came in were mainly supportive but a few were disparaging. I was taken to task, especially so when I quoted the cyber community. It was not intended to provoke an argument nor to provoke anger or create ill will. Well it seems to have done both, and for that I can only apologise.

An e-mail has come from Dave **Ward** on the subject of Association headgear, especially when members attend events such as the Remembrance Day parade or the National Memorial Arboretum. The question was raised as to why the Association did not have a beret such as other services. It has been pointed out that the Association has never had head gear and when there are solemn occasions that require our attendance we have always given a court bow if we have been laying wreaths etc. It raises an interesting question and the Executive Committee have asked Dave to come up with suggestions. If you have any, then please let’s have them.

The next function is the Annual Dinner and, in due course, Parry **Jones** will advise as to its success. The Committee do take cognisance of the fact that getting to the Victory Services Club in London, and the attendant requirements are costly, but that is the way it is. It is our annual opportunity for some formality. We recognise that money is tight and we will have to wait for better times for our functions to be better supported. Elsewhere in this edition there is a report on the annual braai, which was a great success.

So that’s my bleat for this period, while still remembering the best Police Force in the World.

6001 Alistair **Black**

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**BSAP Christmas Sundowner**

The BSAP Christmas Sundowner will be on the first Tuesday, 4 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. A light buffet will be available.

The Chairman and Committee look forward to seeing as many as possible at this sundowner.

Please consider bringing a small raffle prize for the draw which will take place that evening.

![Hullo - mountain rescue? I need some help with the ironing.](Image)

With thanks to **The Oldie**

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(6424) **Wynne Berry**
Bertie’s Blether

The Jubilee celebrations and the Olympics have come and gone. In our own sphere the AGM went well, the braai was truly enjoyable, if lacking numbers, and the Dinner has recently entertained and fed us. This has been an amazing year so far, which may still surprise us with other attractions, such as the Christmas Sundowner.

My thanks to the membership for their help and good humour in dealing with the various problems which arose during the year. I thank all those members who have loyally supported stock sales in 2012 and ask for their continued support in 2013. I remind new members appointed in 2012, that I have Association ties in both silk and polyester for sale, plus many other items of memorabilia, amongst which are polo shirts with the BSAP crest, of particularly good quality, please see the separate lists on page 6.

Subscriptions

It appears that quite a few members are still unsure of the position concerning subscriptions, so the following is relevant. As of 1 January 2012, due to rising costs, subscriptions rose to £15 per annum, and is the first rise for many years. Forewarning of this increase was given at the AGM and also in the Winter 2011 Outpost.

Even though some members pay monies to the BSAP Trust Fund, these payments are no longer considered to be subscriptions as, by law, the monies cannot be called upon to cover Association costs. I therefore request that all members pay a subscription each year in order to cover the administration and running cost of your Regimental Association, which includes The Outpost, and which rises yearly. Should you still wish to contribute to the Trust this would now be a separate payment.

In order to make subscriptions even easier a bank standing order can be supplied by myself by snail mail or e-mail, just ask – my details are at the rear of the magazine.

Finally, I ask all those Members whose standing orders for subscription are still for £10, to change it with their bank to £15, well before 1 January 2013 when your next subscription is due.

As this is the last issue for 2012 I wish all Members and their families a happy Christmas and hopefully a more prosperous new year.

There is still time for you to get your BSAP Christmas cards from me.

Bertie Cubitt,

Buddy, the electrician, got sacked from the US prison service for not servicing the electric chair. He said in his professional opinion it was a death trap.

Zak is said to be shocked at finding out all his cows have bluetongue, he said, ‘I didn't even know they had mobile phones.’
### Stock Price List 2012

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<td>Bookmark, BSAP (with Dave Blacker’s, The Regiment)</td>
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**BSAP Series Books (new volumes)**

- Book 13, Humour in the BSAP                                         £8.50
- Book 14, Personalities in the BSAP                                  £8.50
- Book 15, Motoring Memories of the BSAP                              £12.50
- Book, Blondie’s Revenge, by T Grainger                              £7.00

Prices are exclusive of post and packing.
Cost of postage is available on request to Bertie **Cubitt**.

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### Advertisement Costs

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Contact Bertie Cubitt for payment - full details on page 49.

**Sponsor a page - £20.00 for three issues.**

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6736 Ian **Cochrane** - in memory of Squad 10/62
BSAP Braai at Lilleshall - 2012

On Friday evening 3 August 2012, nine ex-members of the BSAP, some with their wives, attended a pleasant pre-prandial appraisal of the facilities of Lilleshall, and pronounced it to be very satisfactory and suitable for the purposes of a braai. Thereafter, all joined in an excellent meal which left all thoroughly replete. Afterwards, some resumed their appraisal of the bar facilities and its contents, while others perambulated gently through the grounds, or simply retired for a well-earned somnolence. They were 6348 Dennis Poole, 6609 Parry Jones, 7359 Bertie Cubitt, 7391 Alan and Lynn Toms, 8163 Robbie Robertson and WP 199 Lin Robertson, 8307 Flash Firth with Jeanette McMeeken.

Most were up bright and early the following morning (although there were no stable parades) and partook in varying degrees of enthusiasm of the selection of breakfast items on display.

Other residents included a number of teams training for the Paralympics, and generally a very pleasant and friendly lot they were, although rightly and naturally more concerned with their own activities than ours.

Alan, Lynn, Dennis and Parry finished setting-up the display of BSAP memorabilia, erecting the flagpoles and flying the Union Flag and the Regimental Flag. Actually it was more Alan and Lynn doing the set-up, with the others contributing or getting in the way, while Bertie Cubitt set up his Q-store.

Most spent part of the day exploring the extensive, beautiful and well-maintained grounds of Lilleshall and the wealth of sporting facilities. Others visited the nearby countryside or towns.

In the afternoon 7964 Stuart Thomson and 8009 Peter Butler made a brief but welcome visit, although were unable to stay for the braai.

The crowd started to arrive during the afternoon, and there was a happy reunion of old friends. In attendance, were 4762 Jim McEvoy, 4777 Takkie Macintosh, 4853 Fred and Margaret Punter, 5358 Mick York, 5625 Biff and Neta Way, 6449 Ted and Roz Crawford, 7207 Arnold and 203679 Paula Wooley, 7233 Clive Shelley, 7391 7612 Jerry and Janice Rickson, 7661 Rod Shelley, 7677 Peter Dewe, 7784 Steve and Wendy Acornley, 78992 Peter and Liz Marshall, 7902 Brien and Anne Bonynge, 8006 Chris Roberts, 8338 Mal and Roz Thurman with Moira Lewis, 8574 Steve Glover and 9086 Tony Granger with Penny Timmis.

6925 Dave Darby
At 19:00 an extensive and delicious braai was served, although the boerewors (which had been specified) had been replaced by a form of bratwurst. It was very pleasant, but was not boerewors. Appropriate indignation has been expressed. There was ample food, and so much that a large amount was left over. It was a shame to see so much uneaten.

Biff Way, in his own unique and inimitable way auctioned a beautiful painting by Penny Timmis and donated by her. The raffle and auction was raised £200 for the Association.

The party started to break-up at about 22:30 with only a few stalwarts remaining.

Breakfast was the same ample fare, with a greater spread of time for guests to appear. Afterwards a number of members helped Alan and Lynn to take down and pack up the display.

All in all it was a thoroughly pleasant weekend, which could have done with at least double the number attending. The rooms have been upgraded since last year and are to hotel standard, with en-suite bathrooms, tea/coffee making, television and broadband connections.

Lilleshall has again been booked, for 26 to 28 July 2013, for our braai and it is earnestly hoped that at least double the number will attend what is a superb venue with excellent accommodation. The week-end will combine with the centenary of the BSAP Regimental Association at The National Memorial Arboretum in Alrewas, and a coach will be supplied to convey members from and to Lilleshall. Full details will be in the next Outpost.
News from the North-West

For the first time in 31 years (after the former recently returned to UK) 7902 Brian Bonynge met 6508 Graham Rogers at a get together at Rod Wilson’s in BSAP Moreton. From the left, Brian Bonynge, Anne Bonynge, Pat Rogers, Paula Woolley, Rod Wilson, Graham Rogers and Arnold Woolley. All will be at our September meeting along with 7917 David Farrington, yet another new-comer, who returned to UK in 1981. David has been found living for the past 15 years a few doors away from 7129 Steve Robins, in Southport. Who said ‘seek and you shall find’? This makes five new members in the North West in the last three months.

Meeting - Sunday 9 September

The weather was pleasant for a change, I collected the new kids on the block, very recently arrived from Joburg, 7902 Brian and Anne Bonynge and set off for the Feilden Arms, pointing out places of interest, like Walton Gaol and Aintree Race Course and then Ashworth Hospital wherein resides one Ian Brady. Held up on the M6 by a bit of an accident we arrived about 25 minutes late.

First to meet inside was 6508 Graham Rogers on his second lunch meeting and 7917 Dave Farrington on his very first visit and at the back 9786 Lance

To the left - David Farrington, Peter Biddulph, & to the right, Frank Dearden and Paula Wooley

6925 Dave Darby
Combrink who has been with us quite a while. 7211 Peter Biddulph was up north on family business and knowing the best place to be for Sunday lunch joined us and was very welcome. Especially was pleased to see Dot Stanford-Smith after her bereavement. Dot seems to be bearing up well and being one of our most valued members we wish her well.

Not being at my best, again, I took my seat and concentrated on The Books and noticed that everyone without exception was in earnest conversation, and stayed that way throughout, so all I had to do was bang the table once to see if everyone had ordered their lunch. This is the way I like it, being such a great responsibility!

Those attending: 4933 Rod Wilson, 7917 Dave Farrington, 7192 Steve Robins, 204504 Dot Stanford-Smith, 6508 Graham and Pat Rogers, 7211 Peter Biddulph, 9786 Lance Combrink and Elizabeth, 8199 Tessa and Bugs Moran, 7089 Frank and Margaret Dearden, 7902 Brian and Anne Bonynge, 7207 Arnold Woolley and 203679 Paula Woolley.

Those normally there but missing this time, (6314) Val Marsden, (7022) Dorothy Walker, 8307 Flash Firth and Jeanette are on holiday.

I am very pleased to welcome our new members. Steve Robins has been living a few doors away from Dave Farrington in Southport area for 12 or more years and neither knew. I would like to find even more, let’s see what we can do.

Our next meeting is 9 December for our Christmas lunch at the Feilden Arms when Dorothy Walker is hoping to bring the Carlisle gang. I should shortly receive the menu from the pub and as last year I will circulate it to all and you can state your preferences, which I will pass on to the pub which makes the chef happy. I will also ask the pub if they want me to collect payment in which case I will arrange for those attending to be provided with tickets.

The blind man in the Liverpool hospital bed next to me, called the nurse and complained about me asking him to play I-Spy and that he had not won a single game. You gotta love scouse humour.
South West Gathering

From 11:30 on Saturday 6 October 2012, 47 former members of the BSAP and their guests started arriving for our six monthly gathering at the Cromwell Arms in Bovey Tracey, located on the edge of Dartmoor. Those from far afield included 6388 Will Cornell from the USA and 5248 Alan Lane from Surrey, together with his wife Pauline. Thirty people sent apologies for inability to attend.

On this occasion the emphasis was on the 18 ladies, who charm the South West Gatherings with their presence.

Back row from left to right we have Liz Elliot, Pauline Lane, WFR 203497 Gill Watson, who served in Umtali, WFR Ursula Hurst, who from 1958 – 61 was a CAA air hostess, Carole Latham (hidden), WFR 204556 Caroline Witts, who served in Salisbury and was part of the BSAP radio team at Mount Darwin. Caroline is also our local Almoner. WFR Bev Samler, who was born in Northern Rhodesia and served at Salops, and one of our former regulars WPO 354 Jenny Evison now living in Salisbury. I neglected to ask Jenny where she’d served in the Force - Sorry. Les Vickery. In the front row we have Molly Gilbert, Barbara Addison, Cindy Kennedy, WFR 202956 Hilda Olivier from Shabani, who served at Hard Square in Salisbury, WFR 200453 Pat Shaw widow of the late 4776 Terry Shaw, WSO 201279 Heather Milner who saw service as a member of the A- Reserve in Umtali and at Rhodesville Traffic, Sally Powis born and educated in Uganda, and Pam Edwards.

The hotel management kindly provided a copious supply of complimentary coffee. Thereafter, a few very enjoyable and relaxing hours were spent over drinks, socialising, and telling when-we stories. A tasty lunch at a reasonable price was available for those who required additional sustenance.

Heather Milner organised the sale of some bracelets and homemade Christmas mincemeat, together with a raffle on behalf of the Zimbabwe Pensioners’ Support Fund, which raised £132. I don’t remember when I last won anything in a raffle, so the bottle of wine was a very pleasant surprise. Since

5755 Stewart Edwards
opening the account in April 2010, Heather is amazed by the terrific support and
response she has had for the Fund in the UK, and the South West have been fantastic with raffle
prizes and support at our gatherings.
Other members on parade who signed the register were our organizer 5956 Dave

Kennedy, F/Res. 8104K Keith Latham, 9337 Geoff Hurst, 6681 Geoff Quick,
11999 George Fardell, 9226 Dave Cardy, 5329 Paddy Morton, 5755 Stewart
Edwards, 4484 Buchan Tefler, 6388 WillCornell, 8355 Chris Butler, 6575

Ayers-Hunt, 9281 Steven Teasdale, 9661 Colin Anderson, Assoc. Peter Olivier, F/Res. 21962
David Vickery, guest and NRP Representative Tommy

Tomkins, 5085 Jim Gilbert, 6197/7206 Keith

Addison, whom I hadn’t seen since 1969 but instantly recognized, 8515

Note the date of the next gathering, Saturday 11 May 2013 which will again
be at the Cromwell Arms. Everybody is welcome.

6681 Geoff Quick

(6349) Marjorie Eglington - in Loving memory of Mike
Irish Gathering

The eleventh Annual Irish Gathering took place on 1 September 2012 at the usual venue near Clonmel, County Tipperary. Many thanks to Sandy Stokes for again opening his house, gardens and facilities for the function. This is much appreciated. The weather was fine with long sunny periods and those attending, forty-four in all, were able to enjoy the proceedings, both indoor and outdoor.

It has become customary for those travelling from afar to stay at Nagles guesthouse/pub and have a party on the Friday night. Last year a band, was there playing traditional Irish music, which was well-received. This year, the band could not play there so Sandy brought it to his house, together with those staying at Nagles. A gathering of some 20 people took place on Friday evening which lasted until after 23:00 and almost drank Sandy out of house and home.

The downside was that Sandy and I had to be up at 05:00 the following day in order to set up the 40 kg pig on the spit, start the fire and check it every fifteen minutes.

A small ceremony was held before the meal to remember one of our stalwarts, Eddie Matchett, who had just died. 5615 Tom Meekin gave a short eulogy, after which a minute’s silence was held. Condolences were offered to his wife and family.

After seven hours cooking the pig was ready, and Peter Biddulph was called upon to perform the duties of carver. Our thanks must go to the ladies involved who assisted in the preparation of the lunch, which seemed to be enjoyed by all. Thanks, Eve Norris, Marie Berry, Anne Mills, Nicky Hall and Joan Meekin.

Another meal was available in the evening from leftovers, and the BSAP hard core was still around until after 22:00.

This year we were pleased to welcome some new faces: 4896 Frank Sadlier, 6651 Larry Farren, 6507 Seamus Power, 8278 Tony Marillier, 10083 Norman McNarry, 10378 John Coleridge, 381072H Paddy O’Shea, also guest Shane Beary (exRLI, Selous Scouts, SAS).

During the afternoon Biff Way conducted the raffle in his inimitable way. Thanks to all who donated prizes. A most successful auction was held by Biff for a bottle of whisky donated by Robin Harvey. There was a reserve of €40 on this but €152 was realised due to Tony Marillier and Peter O’Hara in turn donating the bottle for re-auction. Thanks to all as £250 was raised for Association Funds.

In attendance were: 5272 Pat Deasy, 5681 Robin and Carole Harvey, 5625 Biff and Netta Way, 4583 Paddy Leen, 5584 John and Marie Berry and guest Nicky Hall, 10083 Norman McNarry, 4896 Frank Sadlier and guest Barry Dowling, 5615 Tom and Joan Meekin, assoc. member Stan and Anne Mills, Geoff and Maggie Woods, Mike Harris (guests), RRAF Rob and Rosemary Davey, 5508 Gordon and Eve Norris, Rev. Noel Scott (guest), PR Paddy and Bernie O’Shea, PR Chris Kavanagh and WFR Wendy Kavanagh, PR 10378 John and Marge Coleridge, 6651 Larry and Althea Farren, 8278 Tony Marillier, 4005 Stan Forrest (posthumously).
A Kentuckian was visiting London for the first time and wanted to see Big Ben. Unfortunately he was having trouble finding it. He finally saw a police officer and asked him for directions. ‘If you stand at that bus stop over there and get on the 74 bus, it will take you right there’. Explained the officer.

‘Gee thanks, Buddy’, replied the American and walked to the bus stop. Some four hours later the officer was walking past the bus stop and saw the Kentuckian still there. The officer stopped and said to him, ‘Excuse me, sire, but I said you should get on the 74 bus and it will take you right there. What are you still doing here?’ ‘Don’t you worry ya sell none, Buddy. It won’t be long, the sixty-ninth bus has just gone by.

The same Kentuckian was at home, when a neighbour saw him go to his mail-box, look in it and go back into the house. Over the next half hour, the man repeated this five times. The neighbour approached his buddy and said, ‘You must bed expecting some real important mail today, from the way you keep checking your mail-box. His friend answered, ‘No. I’m working on my new computer and it keeps telling me I have mail’.

The same neighbour saw that his friend’s car only had one working headlight. When he saw him later he said, ‘Hey, ol’ buddy, one of your headlights isn’t working’. ‘Well doggone! Is it at the back or front’?
The BSAP (UK Branch) Regimental Dinner 2012

The Annual Regimental Dinner took place at the Victory Services Club, London on Friday 28 September 2012. Members and their guests were gathering in the bar well before 17:00 greeting old comrades. 4955 Bob Morriston called in to meet up with old friends but was unable to stay. The bugle mess call sounded at 19:15.

The Carisbrooke Hall was decorated with BSAP and Rhodesian flags and the BSAP banner displayed. HM the Queen’s response to the Branch’s greetings on her Diamond Jubilee was also on display alongside the President’s plaque, a model of a mounted BSAP Officer and Dave Blacker’s remembrance poem. A total of 74 members and guests found their places at tables which had been tastefully dressed in blue and gold and bearing the names of well-known Rhodesian raptors. The film of the Last Parade was shown during dinner.

The Chairman, Peter Phillips, started proceedings by saying that greetings had been received from the Queen and various Branches around the world, especially John Pirrett (Transvaal Branch) who had personally delivered his. Barry Henson, recuperating at home after a lengthy stay in hospital had also sent his best wishes. Peter welcomed Lord Michael Walker (Patron of the BSAP Trust), Brigadier Vic Walker (RAA) and The Honourable Judge Robert (Bob) Hardy, members from overseas, Will Cornell (USA), Richard Barnes (Australia), Laurie Ibbit and his wife, Liz (South Africa) and Murray Harrison (Spain). After the loyal toast, and grace by Rev Terry Mesley-Spong, a very tasty meal was enjoyed.

After the customary break for those needing fresh air, Peter introduced our guest speaker who had done his three in the BSAP before embarking on a long and distinguished career in the legal profession.

Judge Bob Hardy began by saying that it was an honour and privilege to be asked to speak at the dinner. Having been raised in the austerity of post-war Britain he was attracted by an advertisement for policemen in Rhodesia.
He applied, was interviewed by Col. W H D Walker (father of Lord Michael Walker), the then BSAP recruiting officer at Rhodesia House and in due course set sail from Southampton, aged 19 years, with ten other recruits. After 13 days at sea then three days and nights on the train from Cape Town to Salisbury, they arrived at Depot where they were joined by four local recruits forming Squad 2/58. He spoke about his training, pass-out parades, both mounted and dismounted, and subsequent posting to Salisbury Urban together with the whole of his squad (despite all of them requesting more exotic postings). He later spent time at Harare and having tasted urban life, applied for the District Branch and spent time at Rusape and then his final station Inyanga.

He returned to England in 1961 and began his legal career as a barrister at Gray’s Inn, was called to the Bar in 1969, leading to his appointment as Circuit Judge in 1992, before retiring from the Crown Court (Southwark) in 2011. He felt that common sense, judgement and experience were all applicable to being a policeman, barrister or judge. Bob proposed a toast to the Regiment and Regimental Association, followed by a standing ovation and the presentation of an engraved glass tankard. Charles Bennett, junior troop, suitably replied before proposing the toast to absent friends.

Mick York with the help of Bob Hardy then held the in-house raffle – Lisa Pirrett won the first prize of £50 which she generously donated towards the cost of the dinner. Bertie Cubitt, Bert Hilliard and Bob Clark won the three prizes in the main raffle and £1,749 was accrued towards Association Funds. A bottle of wine donated by Fred Punter was auctioned by Biff Way, raising a further £50.

The Chairman ended the formal part of the dinner by expressing a special word of thanks to Parry Jones for the organisation of the dinner, to Bertie Cubitt for manning the sales department and to the staff of the Victory Services Club for their help and efficiency. He also mentioned that for the first time there were no 46ers at the dinner.

Sitting down to dinner were: Lord Michael Walker, 5803 The Honourable Judge Robert Hardy, Brigadier Vic Walker, 4278 John Balchin, 4503 Derek Humberstone, 4600 Terry Mesley-Spong, 4819 Brian Lay, 4851 Murray Harrison, 4853 Fred Punter, 4857 Mike Wiltshire, 4882 Peter Dancer, 5111 Jack Bacon, 5248 Alan Lane, 5322 Stuart Rodda, 5358 Mick York, 5408 Richard Barnes, 5559 Dick Peter Phillips with the guest speaker, Bob Hardy

Richard Barnes, Gwen Fairer-Smith & Stewart Edwards

4960 Gerry Gibson
A man was in a hospital when he noticed a nurse who was wearing a badge with a picture of an apple on it. He asked, ‘Why do you have that picture of an apple on your uniform?’ She replied, ‘It keeps the doctors away’.

5498 Raoul Gilbert - in Loving memory of Rena Gilbert
Diary Dates

VSC Social evening on first Tuesday of every month, starting 17:30

NW Quarterly Gathering - Sunday 9 December, Christmas lunch at noon at Feildens Arms, Mellor Brook, Blackburn BB27PR. Tel: 01254 814655. Contact Rod Wilson (see page 50) for details.

Outpost 83 - Deadline for copy to the editor - 15 January 2013

BSAP Christmas Sundowner at the VSC on Tuesday 4 December 2012

BSAP Regimental Association AGM at the Victory Service Club on 11 May 2013 at 11:00, followed by snacks. Further details in Issue 83.

Also on the 11 May 2013 is the South-West Gathering at Cromwell Arms, Fore St, Bovey Tracey, Devon. Queries to Dave Kennedy, Tel: 01726-851258 or plumville@btinternet.com

Third Scottish Gathering in Edinburgh on 25 May 2013

BSAP Braai at Lilleshall and Association centenary at the NMA on 26 to 28 July 2013. Please see the notice above.

Irish Gathering 7 September 2013. Further details in a later issue.

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BSAP Regimental Association
Centenary Celebration

As most of you are aware, 2013 sees the centenary of the founding of the Regimental Association. In the absence of a hoped-for event elsewhere, the UK Branch is making plans to celebrate the event.

Your committee has decided to hold a reception at the BSAP Memorial at the National Memorial Arboretum (NMA) at Alrewas in Staffordshire on the same weekend as the annual braai at Lilleshall. It will be similar to the Last Parade but perhaps not on quite such a grand scale. We would be delighted if members would make a weekend of it – Lilleshall is available on Friday and Saturday nights with the braai on Saturday evening. The reception at the Memorial at Alrewas will involve a marquee and refreshments from midday on Sunday, followed by a service of re-dedication of the Memorial and the unveiling of a new plaque to acknowledge the centenary. Winston Hart has again undertaken to provide a plaque. A suitable dignitary will be invited to perform the unveiling – watch this space.

Lilleshall, Shropshire is in the middle of the country and easily accessible. It is only a 45 minute drive from the NMA and we will make arrangements for coaches if there is a demand.

This is a preliminary notice and details will follow as they evolve. For the moment, please put the weekend of 26 to 28 July 2013 in your diary.

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Rauol Gilbert - in memory of Dave Sloman
VSC Gatherings

First Tuesdays at the Victory Services Club in London continue to be the venue for old friends to meet. It is however noticeable that there are not too many new faces putting in an appearance on these occasions and it is left to the regulars to make the gatherings worthwhile. It would be great if more members, especially those who live or work within striking distance of the capital would make an effort and support these gatherings.

3 July 2012 – It was pleasing to see a better turnout at this month’s gathering despite the threat of rain. Enjoying the company and the inevitable liquid refreshments were: 4278 John Balchin, 4503 Derek Humberstone, 4735 Cliff Rogers with daughter Arianne, 4840 Mike Purslow, 4882 Peter Dancer, 5248 Alan Lane, 5507 Brian Taylor, 5625 Biff Way, 5975 Mike and Audrey Abbotts, 6001 Alistair Black, 6527 Mike O’Donnell, 6737 Mike Coleman, 6787 Paddy Finn, 6905 Peter Phillips, 7211 Peter Biddulph, [7327] Maggie Plant, 7359 Bertie Cubitt, 7391 Alan Toms, 7677 Peter Dewe, 7751 Alan Crook (South Africa), 9539 William Russell, 111697 Charles Bennett, WP 199 Lin

Robertson and guest Ian Stuart.
7 August 2012 – With the Olympics on and the expected disruption of normal travel arrangements it was always doubtful if there would be many who would make the effort to attend this month’s gathering – and this turned out to be correct.
Showing their faces were: 4278 John Balchin, 4503 Derek Humberstone, 4809 John Turk, 5248 Alan Lane and 6905 Peter Phillips.

4 September 2012 – There was a reasonable turnout at this month’s gathering where we were able to welcome and entertain 7305 Peter Standaloft from Australia. Also putting in an appearance were: 4278 John Balchin, 4882 Peter Dancer, 5248 Alan Lane, 5507 Brian Taylor, 5975 Mike and Audrey Abbotts, 6001 Alistair Black, 6348 Dennis Poole, 6721 Peter Russell, 6877 Tich Burgoyne, 6905 Peter Phillips, 7211 Peter Biddulph, 7225 Keith and Judy Brown (soon moving to South Africa – we wish them well), 7359 Bertie Cubitt, 7391 Alan Toms, 8278 Tony Marillier, WP 199 Lin Robertson, guests Anne Wilson (daughter of 4148 Maurice Cooper-Jones), Janice Schaltz (sister of 8866 Stephen Patterson) and Ian Stuart.

When Tony Blair was electioneering in Edinburgh, he visited a hospital and entered a ward full of apparently uninjured and healthy patients. He greeted the first patient who replied, ‘Fair fa your honest sonsie face, great Chieftain of the puddin race, aboon them a you take your place, painch, tripe or thairm as lang my arm’. Tony is confused and moves to greet the next patient, who answers, ‘Some hae meat and canna eat, and some was eat that want it, but hae meat and can eat, so let the Lord be thankit’.

Even more confused, he moved to a third patient who started to chant, ‘Wee sleekit, timorous cowrin’ beastie, though needna start awa sae haste, wi bickerin brattle’.

Tony, thoroughly alarmed, turned to a doctor and asked, ‘What sort of ward is this? Is it for the insane?’ ‘No’, replied the doctor, ‘this is the serious Burns unit’.
Hwange Conservation Society

The Hwange Conservation Society is a UK registered charity (No. 1036153) set up in 1992 to help and support Hwange (Wankie) National Park (HNP) in Zimbabwe. We have raised over £100,000 to help HNP, its wildlife and the people who work there. We have funded 30 plus diesel engines, fuel for water holes, a dart-rifle and drugs, spare parts, uniforms, help for the school and local community. We’ve funded a vegetable garden at Main Camp School allowing the pupils to grow vegetables, some of which are sold to provide funds for school equipment. We’ve helped start a chicken-raising project, with the chickens being sold to local safari camps.

The charity is run by volunteers who take no payment. They operate from their homes using their own computers, telephones, etc. There are no overheads such as office rent, salaries, etc., meaning that all the money raised goes directly to helping HNP and its wildlife. We are able to get donations into Zimbabwe duty free and all, monetary or otherwise, are channelled through totally reliable sources ensuring that everything reaches its intended destination. We take pride in concentrating on projects which are sustainable and of long-term benefit to the Park.

Despite our achievements, more help is needed and we are asking wildlife lovers everywhere to support our work – please join us in our fight to help HNP and its wildlife – membership starts from £10pa. If you can help in any way, or would like further information, please contact Anne Wilkinson, Spotted Dog Cottage, Whorlton, Barnard Castle, Co. Durham DL12 8XQ UK or at charitsaub@yahoo.co.uk or visit www.hwangecons.org.uk.

This must be Sir Humphrey

Four men were discussing how clever their cats were. The first was an engineer, the second an accountant, the third a chemist, and the fourth, a civil servant.

To show off, the engineer called his cat over and said, ‘T-Square, do the tricks I taught you’. T-Square promptly drew a circle, a square and a triangle.

That’s very clever, said the accountant, but my cat can do better. He called over and said, ‘Spreadsheet, do your thing’. Spreadsheet went into the kitchen brought in a dozen biscuits and divided them into four equal piles of three biscuits each.

‘Very good’, said the chemist, but look at what my cat can do. He called to his cat, Measure, and said, ‘Measure, get me a half-pint of milk’. The cat went to a cupboard and took out a measuring jug, opened the fridge, removed a bottle of milk and measured out exactly ten fluid ounces of milk without spilling a drop.

‘That is also excessively talented, but I respectfully request that you carefully observe the eloquent skills of my cat, Tea-Break’, said the civil servant. (who was a little verbose and pedantic). ‘Tea-Break, please demonstrate to these excellent and observant gentlemen your particular skills, carefully imparted to you through my good offices’. Tea-Break got up, ate the biscuits, drank the milk, messed on T-Square’s drawings, bit the other cats and then claimed he had injured his back, so filed a grievance report, claimed compensation for injury on duty and took six months sick-leave.
Unless otherwise stated, all photographs on the Photo Gallery are by Alan Lane. Additional photos are still needed to enhance the gallery and members are requested to send copies to Alan Lane at lanepanda@aol.com preferably at full resolution or to 109 Buckingham Gardens, West Molesey, Surrey KT8 1TN

5681 Robin Harvey - in memory of Mike Crafter
The Great War in East Africa Conference, was organised by the GWEA Association at the instigation of Hugh Philips, and held at the National Archives, Kew on 14 July 2012. Unfortunately Hugh could not attend but Alan Crook and I represented the BSAP.

Possibly for the first time since 1929, this gathering took place in London to commemorate and remember the Great War in East Africa. Just over thirty specialists on the campaign came together to share their knowledge of the sideshow. It involved over twenty-eight countries and lasted longer than any fighting in Europe (5 August 1914 to 25 November 1918) and saw action on water, land and in the air. In addition to the 250,000 odd troops, around one million native bearers are estimated to have been involved as well as untold draft animals. Over one million people are thought to have lost their lives during the campaign, mainly from disease and malnutrition.

Conference talks covered most aspects of the campaign – Indian, Belgian and Danish involvement as well as Nyasaland, the Rhodesias, German mobilization, and prisoners of war/internees. Aspects of researching the campaign were also addressed – what is held in the National Archives, Belgian archival sources at the Royal Military Museum and how to use medal citations. The document and map exhibition by the National Archives, enhanced with memorabilia from the NRP Association, and salvaged *Pegasus* and *Konigsberg* items stimulated much discussion over lunch and tea.

Tim Wright, the historian of the NRP has since provided us with a transcript of a diary kept by A271 Pte W H J Walker a member of A Company of the BSA Company’s Murray’s Column, and covers the period from January 1916 to April 1917. The diary shows the hardships they endured in a hostile environment with indifferent rations. They spent more time marching than fighting but were never worsted in action. It is hoped that parts of the diary can be included in the forthcoming publication of Books of the BSAP series covering the period from the Jameson Raid to the GEA campaign. The website of the GWEAA is gweaa.org and is well worth a look.

The mention in the last edition of a discussion on the History of Fort Rixon jogged George Glibbery's memory. He has a copy of a booklet entitled *A History of the Upper Insiza River Valley – Fort Rixon*, and it will be displayed at the Reunion Centre at the annual braai. The booklet is some 50 pages with colour photographs and is an excellently researched and produced work. George writes, ‘Here's a fascinating anecdote. The history was compiled by Sandra Jackson, a descendant of Jan Viljoen, a Boer Commando who was, with four others, sentenced to hang. This was commuted for all five, but only Viljoen is mentioned; he was banished and crossed the Limpopo in about 1849. Sandra was married to Geoff Jackson who farmed at Fort Rixon. One of Geoff's ancestors was known as Rope Maker Jackson. He left Scotland in 1820 first..."
settling in Pietermaritzburg. He provided the ropes that were to be used to hang Viljoen and the others. Life's tapestry. I noticed that a summarised family history of the Rixons is printed. One family member studied at Christ's Hospital school near Horsham in Sussex. It is a beautiful building, well known for its academic achievements.

The Books of the BSAP series continues to expand. The latest edition, 15, is, Motoring Memories of the British South Africa Police, compiled by 5663 Peter Huson and 8157 Barry Woan. The photograph on the rear cover is reproduced here.

**Motoring Memories of the British South Africa Police**

When were motorcycles first officially used by the Force? When was the first Information Room established? How did the B-Car get its name? When were the first Highway Patrol cars used? When were Traffic Patrol cars first introduced? Who drove a Morris Oxford station wagon from Rhodesia to Ethiopia and back? Who rode a motorcycle from Salisbury to Uganda, round Lake Victoria and back in thirty days? The stories are inside.

This book starts with a history of the British South Africa Police Motor Car Club, which existed only due to the enthusiasm of the then Commissioner, Basil Spurling. It was a success during its short life and by 1963 was organising an international rally.

One of the Car Club’s founder members became a rally driver of international repute and won a sponsored drive in the Monte Carlo Rally. Other members competed successfully in local and national rallies and also in motor racing events in Bulawayo and Salisbury.

We have identified many members of both the Salisbury and the Bulawayo clubs together with all the photographs we could locate. We gleaned stories from editions of the Outpost, not only of the car club and its activities but also of other motoring matters relating to the Force.

From these and former members’ contributions, plus over 250 photographs, we have put together a collection of stories, which have a common thread – a vehicle driven by an internal combustion engine.

As always, copies are available from the Q-Rep, Bertie Cubitt for £12.50 plus p&p. Details on page 48.

Book 16, ‘More Tales of the BSAP’ will shortly be with the printers, and the indefatigable John Berry is working on edition 17 covering The Jameson Raid and its aftermath, together with new material on the East Africa Campaign.

7391 Alan Toms

| 4284 Syd Hubbard | 24 |
The Elbow Room

It was during my time as Member i/c, Highlands Police Station in the Salisbury Suburban District between 1969 and 1972, that a two roomed storage building at the rear of the station became obsolete. Together with Phil Halkier (my 2 i/c) and Tony Dawson (senior mess member who was tragically killed in action in 1978), much thought was put into what it could be used for extra offices, extension to the single quarters or perhaps the A-Reserve office – none very exciting.

Finally it was decided on a bold idea – why not make it the station bar. There wasn’t another in the Salisbury Suburban District at the time and some doubt was cast as to whether such a suggestion would be welcomed, or even approved. Notwithstanding the expected outcome, our proposal to change the store into a bar was submitted to the OC Salisbury Suburban, Chief Superintendent Guy Houghton, together with the plans of the proposed layout and likely costs. He needed some convincing but in the end sent our proposal to PGHQ for their consideration and if approved, the granting of the Commissioner’s licence.

After what seemed an eternity, and much to everyone’s amazement, approval was given and The Elbow Room was born. It was then all go – the Pioneers did the necessary alterations to the structure – the wall between the two rooms had to be knocked down and in its place a bar top, with large fridge underneath, was fitted. New stone floors laid and small veranda was built outside. Wood panelling was installed around the walls of the bar together with bench seats – thanks especially to A-Reserve Inspector Mac Mackenzie, (of CMED fame) who spent many hours applying the finishing touches to the bar.

It took a few weeks to complete the job, stock the bar, and issue invitations. Then it was the grand opening appropriately carried out by Guy Houghton (see photo above). Once the bar had been opened Guy arranged for his monthly Members i/c meetings to be held at Highlands Police Station instead of his office at Salisbury Central – I wonder why? Needless to say many pleasant, not too drunken, evenings were held after such meetings and on many other occasions as well. I expect those who served in Salisbury Suburban District at the time will remember The Elbow Room and perhaps have tales to tell, as no doubt, will those who later served at Highlands. I wonder if it is still going?

5248 Alan Lane

Guy Houghton, Doug Broderick, Rod Finnegan, Tom Meekin, Peter Stiff, Alan Lane & Paddy Prior

(2853) Jean Illingworth - In loving memory of Col H Jackson
New Rhodesian Novel Out Now!

In the Shadow of the Tokolosh

Written by the unknown soldier Conrad K

Four young men growing up in the wilderness, the last remnants of colonialism in Africa. While the world and its attitude changed around them, they found themselves fighting to save their way of life, in a land that did not share their views or values. Set in the Zambezi Valley, where the white man made his last stand in Africa.

The writer clearly has a deep love of Africa. His knowledge of the history, the cultures, the dynamics is second to none and he leaves the reader in no doubt that he knows what he is talking about... This is more than a story - it is a history, a philosophy, a way of life, a political debate - all rolled into one... The love and dedication that has gone into it is to be commended. Well done!

Chris Cocks, Author of bestselling book 'Fireforce: One Man’s War in the Rhodesian Light Infantry' (2001)

What a WONDERFUL book. Don’t think it is just about the war against the terrorists in Rhodesia; its much, much more than that. It’s a book of memories, of growing up and becoming a man in Africa...With ‘turns’ that were not expected and with tears in my eyes as I finished the book, I without reservation recommend this book to those who have lived in sub-Saharan Africa.’

Amazon.com Review

(2853) Jean Illingworth - In loving memory of Col H Jackson
New Members and Change of Address

6326 John Frederick Painter, 61 Dovehouse Lane, Solihull, B91 2EF  Tel: 0121- 7065058  E-mail: marionjp@blueyonder.co.uk
6877/7905/20818C Richard Henry (Tich) Burgoyne, 11 Lyndhurst Road, Thornton Heath, Surrey CR7 7PY  Tel: 07796 981265  E-mail: stitchesnsteel@yahoo.co.uk
9410 Dave Smith, Buccleigh Arms Hotel, High Street, Moffat, Scotland DE109ET  Tel: 01683 220003  E-mail: dave.bucc@yahoo.co.uk
12771 William Nicholas Charles Girard, 1 Derek House, Gt Giddingg, Huntingdon PE28 5RJ  Tel: 01832 293083  E-mail: girard774@btinternet.com
7902 Brien Bonynge, 4 Auburn Road, Wallasey CH45 5JJ  Tel: 0151 6391369  E-mail: bonynge1@sky.com
8271 David Bellamy, Les Colombes, La Polkac Douane, France 86200  Tel: (H) 33549950447; (M) 33603795158  E-mail: bellamy@bellamy-associates.com
7061 Peter Saunders, 50 Kingsley Court, Windsor Way, Aldershot, Hants GU11 1HZ  Tel (M) 07938 697851
Spec. PR Norman Harbach Simister, 13 Mountbatten Pavillion, RBLI Admiral Morre Dr., Aylsford ME20 7SE  Tel: (M) 07856 363326  E-mail: normanhs24@gmail.com

Change of details

6090 Nev and Bev Gardiner, E-mail: kiamacottage@gmail.com
111897 Charles Bennett, 2 Holly Bank Cottage, Wooton-by-Woodstock, Oxon OX201AE
Assoc. Major Andrew Banks, c/o Army Headquarters, Officers’ Mess, Marlborough Lines, Monxton Road, Andover, Hants SP11 4HT
9102 Ian McLaren, and his wife, Assoc. member Jacqui. No.13 Hildesley Court, East Ilsley, Berkshire RG20 7LA
New telephone number 01635 281535
6348 Dennis Poole, Mob: 07512 013680
6788 Keith D. Grant, Apartado 27084, EC Praca Municipio - Lisboa, 1144 - 003 Lisboa, Portugal
7475 Paul Hodges E-mail pavlosandsylvia@gmail.com
6508 Graham Rogers E-mail: grogers1942@hotmail.com
7917 Dave Farrington E-mail: davegenic@aol.com

A Zimbabwe Republic Police constable found a stolen car on Acacia Street in Harare, but he pushed it into Park Road, because he couldn’t spell akasia, ackasha, acasher, Park.

(4180) Jeanne May - in Loving memory of husband Rick
Dear Parry, this morning I received a call from 5229 Brian Wall, directing me to The UK Outpost 81 on the bsap.org, website and the photograph on page 33. Firstly, the production of The UK Outpost and the PDF version is just perfect for viewing on screen and the typeface and layout make for an easy read. The photograph brought back happy memories of my interesting time in SB stationed at Railway Avenue under Derrick Robinson and sharing an office with Stan Hancock. I well recall the taking of the photograph and still have my own copy. From the notes on the reverse, I have ‘Mr. Lee’ [4273 Jack (John) Lee] recorded as standing between Sid Bristow (then OC CID) and Ted Colbourne. My notes also record that the photograph was taken outside joint CID and SB Headquarters (then located within the Training Depot) on 17 May 1963 during a reciprocal visit to Southern Rhodesia by the Commandant-General of the PSP (Public Security Police) Angola, Major Serrao, and his ADC, Lt. Presa Fernandes. The visit followed a visit to Luanda and PSP Headquarters by Bill Crabtree (then OC SB) and myself in February 1963 (of which I also have a photograph). During the visit we met with various government agencies and received comprehensive briefings on the security and military situation in northern-eastern Angola following the UPA terrorist incursions from the Congo in 1961 and widespread massacre of Portuguese coffee plantation owners, their families and workers. As Bill Crabtree writes in Chapter 21 of his book, Came the Fourth Flag, he took the first steps to initiate what eventually became very close liaison links with the Portuguese authorities in both Angola and Mozambique (subsequently extended to Portugal), which endured until the Portuguese Carnation Revolution in Lisbon on 25 April 1974. During their three to four day visit to Salisbury, the two PSP officers were entertained at the Commissioner's residence and Officers' Mess, and also visited the Forensic Laboratory just across the road from CIDHQ (which Brian recalled being then posted there), the Dog Training Section in Mabelreign and other BSAP formations. As only a very limited number of prints were made of this photograph, I would be interested to learn the provenance of the one in the latest issue of The UK Outpost. They were certainly interesting (and historical) years. With kind regards,

5947 Martin Edwards

Continued on the following page ...

(4180) Jeanne May - in Loving memory of husband Rick
Following on from my previous email, today we lunched with Brian and Les Wall and positively established that it is Gainforth (known to everyone as 3535 George) Lee standing between Sid Bristow and Ted Colbourne. According to the Nominal Roll, he retired in August 1970 as an S/A/Comm. I hope this sets the record straight for posterity.

(Thank you for that Martin and to Will Cornell who also corrected my misidentification. I have no excuse for making the mistake as Eddie Webb was my PCIO in CID Bulawayo for six years, and I knew him as well as any DI or junior Supt could. According to The History of the BSAP, Gibbs & Phillips; 4273 John Lee retired as a Trooper! Did he rejoin? Why was 3535 Gainforth Lee known as George Lee? Is 4273 John Lee a misidentification?– Ed.)

The following is a letter received from Peter Robinson. Dear Parry, having read The Outpost, a few comments if I may. What a lot of good-looking elderly gentlemen. I know a few, some I heard of but mainly their reg. numbers are far later than mine. You have Remember the 50s and 60s but what about the 1946ers? The immediate post-war members came out in their droves and there are still a few of us left. At my last hearing, Doug Wright, Bob Slade (both squad members of mine) were still around. I saw Ben Hustler mentioned in the magazine, Ted Sheriff went recently to the UK and I saw ex-compol Peter Allum at the commemoration of the BSAP Memorial on the DVD, and of course Ralph Thompson, who is older than me but is still working with us as ‘Q’. Bryan Nightingale and Ralph Thompson both lapped up The Outpost and I will pass it on to my brother. John Collier used to work with us in Kadoma and Bulawayo with Karl Hurry. He moved to Harare, and we saw him on a few occasions, then he disappeared. We were talking about him a few days ago and I guess we thought he had died, and there he is in England. Please give him our regards but please don’t mention what we thought! Keep well. (I will make sure, Peter, that John Collier does not get to hear of his passing. Mum’s the word. As for the 46ers, see below –Ed.)

Dear Parry,
In early 1946, I was a member of what was probably the largest post-war contingent of recruits dispatched from the UK to enlist for three years with the BSAP. As far as I know, we were the second contingent, after the despatch of RMS Franconia carrying such worthies as Bill Earle and John Hamer. We assembled at Rhodesia House where the 92 of us were taken into custody by Sgt Stonier, who was charged with delivering us to the Depot. We were entrained to Southampton to board the RMS Alcantara - a 22,000 ton liner, built by Harland & Wolfe, Belfast and launched in 1926. Before the war she had sailed on the River Plate run, and when war broke out was converted to an armed merchant cruiser. While on duty in the Med. she collided with the Franconia, with both ships

5725 Phil Mead
needing major repairs in Alexandria. Later she was converted to a troopship, in which state she sailed us to Durban.

Coincidentally, while I was holidaying in Spain in 2000 I met a gentleman who astonished me by declaring he had served on Alcantara as fourth officer. We kept in touch and he told me Alcantara had been sold to Japan as scrap.

I enclose a poetic record of our journey from Southampton to Durban aboard the Alcantara. Towards the end I mention the ship being hit by a huge wave while cruising the region of the Algalhas current that flows down the east and southern coasts of southern Africa. It was a most frightening experience. There are similar maritime reports with some ships being sunk, one liner, Oceania, of 12,000 tons keeled over and sank in 1991. The South African rescue services saved 344 people. The winds that generate these huge waves are known as the berg winds and originate in the South African interior, resulting in waves up to 18 metres high.

The once-weekly mail train from Durban to Salisbury was able to only take half the contingent at a time. The rest of us stayed to await the next train, and we had a most delightful holiday in and around Durban. We were quartered in Clarewood Camp in superior comfort, and I was invited to Scottburgh for a few days by kin of some neighbours in the UK.

The first half of the contingent arrived in Bulawayo shortly after dawn, and as their connecting train departed in the evening they had ten hours to enjoy themselves and explore Rhodesia’s second city. A group went to Hillside Dams and hired canoes. An inexperienced crew overturned in deep water and a non-swimmer disappeared under the surface and his body was not recovered for some time. When we arrived a week later we were mustered to attend the funeral of our late comrade.

Another recruit failed to attest being declared medically unfit by Dr Twiggy Branch. The recruit was suffering from rigidity of the spine which should have been identified in London - a sad reflection on that doctor’s competence.

Of the 92 who sailed, 90 attested on the 23 April 1946, of which number 40 survive.

4005 Stan O Forrest

It is with very great regret that, a few days before this issue went to the printer, the death was notified of Stanley Oldham Forrest. He would have loved to have seen his letter, and the poem on pages 31 and 32, published. My sincere condolences to Ginny.

Dear Parry, I was very sorry to read of the death of my old friend 5633 Colin Osborne in The Outpost of Summer 2012. Colin was witty, intelligent and eccentric, and before joining the BSAP in 1957 had been an army officer trained at Mons. He didn’t stay in the BSAP as he ‘didn’t like being told what to do by sergeants’. 5541 Richard Mallinson
The Alcantara Mob of 1946

Out Southampton and Durban bound
the Alcantara south did pound
Through Biscay’s seas into the Med.
past good old Gib. to old Port Said.
No fruit on board the captain ruled -
all bumboat fare declined,
Hosepipes are manned, all sales are
banned, offenders will be fined.

Aboard this veteran ocean ship, from
many an African shore,
Were multitudes of combatants
returning home from war.
The year was 1946 you see, the world
at last at peace
And declared the warring nations,
hostilities will cease.

Included with the passengers - and
demobbed by special release
Were ninety-two ex-servicemen,
recruited for the Rhodesian Police.
The force had claim of second to none
was titled the BSAP
The name of the country’s police force
since nineteen-twenty-three.

The ship moved through the Suez Canal
to port at Ismailia
A welcome rest for all of us on a ship
that stocked no beer.
A glorious sunset - red and gold - lit up
the desert skies
And overnight the ship did stay to
replenish supplies.

Then onward through the hot Red Sea
we travelled to Aden port
To pick up a battalion of askari troops -
in Asia they had fought.
The passenger hoard was allowed
ashore to quench a raging thirst
Including the Captain who fell from the
plank and hit the sea head first.

’Twas no surprise, no sober man
returned to the ship that day
With the last of the drunken procession
making ship before anchors aweigh.
For those who couldn’t stand upright it
was a night in the brig they spent
Regretting the following morning when
before the Captain they went.

Now out on the Indian Ocean,
Mombasa our next call,
A day of sports was organised and by
gad, we beat them all.
No sleep below in tropical heat the
humidity too high
So above to the open deck we went
and in coolness did we lie.

After disembarking the askari troops
and offloading all their gear
On a glass smooth sea the ship moved
south and to Durban we did steer.
That night a tropical storm arose and
raging winds did blow
To drench the on-deck sleepers and
send them down below.

A routine served for several days and to
pass the time away
We lazed throughout the daylight hours
and tombola we did play
But unbeknown to all aboard, in the
channel of Mozambique,
A mighty wave was coming our way - a
storm generated freak
It hit the ship at lunchtime when on the
mess deck we assembled.
The scene soon changed to chaotic rout
- war scene it resembled
With portholes wide in came the tide,
the ship heeled over to port,
Take a deep breath, grab this, hold that,
survival our only thought.
Tables, chairs and plates of food were swept against the wall
The mess deck is deep in water as we struggle not to fall
Then suddenly the ship rolls back and holds a steady course
The mighty wave has passed on by - a frightening powerful force.

’Til order restored we worked together - helping out the crew
Damage is slight, sea-water pumped out and injuries are few.
Such waves do prowl across the seas and strike with little warning

Perhaps tsunami, violent storm, or from earthquakes they are spawning.
Day after day we progress south, towards our journey’s end.
At last we dock in Durban - a few days there we spend.
Then off to Southern Rhodesia, per train and mule drawn cart
To train as the colony’s coppers - prepared to play our part.

4005 Stan O Forrest

Two Al Qaida terrorists were driving with a bomb in their car. One cautioned,
‘Don’t drive so fast, Mustapha, you might set the bomb off’.
‘It’s alright Ibrahim’, Said Mustapha, ‘There’s a spare one in the boot’.

(4743) June Morgan - in Loving memory of John
In 1954 I was called up for National Service in the Royal Navy. After training and a period of time at HMS Drake, the Devonport Barracks; in January 1955 I was posted to the aircraft carrier HMS Eagle. During my stay on board, which last for about 15 months, the ship produced two magazines. In one of them appeared the following poem which you may find amusing and perhaps so will the readers of The Outpost.

**HIC**

| There’s a tintinnabulation A peculiar sensation  |
| In my cardiac organisation Of impending levitation  |
| There’s a strange exhilaration Makes unaided ambulation  |
| When I breathe. Indiscreet.  |
| There’s an old ingurgitation Atmospheric oscillation  |
| Of poetic inspiration; Complicates investigation  |
| With a strange intoxication Of the proper destination  |
| Pulses seethe. Of the feet.  |
| And my jaundiced juices dither There’s a lilting choir divinely  |
| Round my corrugated liver Syncopating in the pine tree;  |
| I’ve an epiglottic quiver; There’s a dozen moons sublimely shining bright.  |
| Tonsils dry.  |
| I’ve a tendency to titter First my head grows big then tiny  |
| At the sight of half of bitter And the stars all quickstep by me.  |
| There’s an exophthalmic glitter I’m a superman, but BLIMEY,  |
| In my eye. Am I TIGHT!  |

I left the Navy in April 1956 and by October I was on the RMS Winchester Castle on my way to the Cape and the BSAP.

5566 David MacDonald

... BSAP... BSAP... BSAP... BSAP... BSAP... BSAP...

With acknowledgements to The Oldie

(4743) June Morgan - in Loving memory of John
The Twilight Tears

When the ancient Greek philosophers studied the psychology of old age, they looked hard into human nature and came up with a now long forgotten human phenomenon they called enantiodromia, literally ‘turning into the opposite’. For example in identifying the nature of man with that of the planet, whilst observing change as the ultimate dynamic, they observed that, as night follows day, in early life an individual’s outgoing character naturally becomes its opposite at the end of life, and vice versa.

One wonders what they would have made of modern man. His many institutions, who by so readily identifying with mechanistic action–in-the-world, lives much of a busy life cut off from a cyclical experience, that even Heraclitus¹ himself might find baffling, bewildering.

Nowhere in my experience does this modern quandary become more charged than in the hospice environment. There ineluctably, in the final stages of terminal decline, we come up hard against the sobering reality that first and foremost, indeed all along, we were (extraordinary) emotional human ‘beings’, never simply the sum total of our human ‘doings’. So it’s a big ask now, at this late hour, for the suffering, fearful patient to turn off that inner busyness, to let go, just be.

The good news is that allowing in such a process even now, becomes at this late hour, very doable, obviously with the help of remarkably dedicated nurses and staff. Paradoxically, the record shows that for many, this is the most liberating and illuminating experience of their lives, not to mention that of their family and friends. Clearly, as one cannot necessarily guarantee such an outcome, it’s as well that we start at least checking out this now, whilst still ahead of the game.

6658 Greg White

Greg (Paddy) is a father and grandfather, semi-retired psychotherapist, living in Ireland, with a professional, living-experience interest in geriatry.

1. Heraclitus: Greek philosopher of the 5th century BC, who held that all things are in a state of being.

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New WDPO to PCIO: 'I can’t possibly use a typewriter, sir, it will damage my nail varnish'.

With acknowledgements to The Oldie.

(4743) June Morgan - in Loving memory of John
The Brothers Dudley

George Dennis Darville Dudley was a prosperous solicitor in Oxford, England during the 1880s when he fathered three sons, Arthur Darville, Walter Dennis and the youngest, George Vernon. The early life of the three brothers remains obscure beyond the fact that Arthur is said to have undergone sea training with the Thames Nautical Training Ship, HMS Worcester. One brother had fame thrust upon him, one achieved fame and the third’s life ended prematurely. Their father is said to have been killed in an air raid in Piccadilly, London, during the 1914-18 war, a dubious but relatively uncommon distinction. At that time he was said to be a colonel, in what unit is unknown. All three brothers went to Africa, the two eldest attested into the BSAP for service during the Boer War, whilst the youngest, George, followed as soon as he was old enough, but did not serve in the Boer War. What is known of their respective stories, or them, is as follows.

Arthur Darville Dudley

Attested into the BSAP on 18 June 1901 (No 163), and served until 23 January 1905, when he took his discharge, by purchase. He was awarded the QSA for his service in the Boer War. He appears to have settled in Northern Rhodesia and when the First World War started he joined the Northern Rhodesia Regiment. With this regiment he saw service in German East Africa (Tanganyika) against forces of General von Lettow-Vorbeck. While serving thus, the British Government sanctioned the transportation of two small gun boats overland from Capetown to Lake Tanganyika where they were assembled, launched on the lake and used to eliminate the German Naval presence on the lake. Presumably because of his sea cadet training, Arthur was selected, or volunteered, to serve with this expedition, and was commissioned Lieutenant, RN, in fact he was stated to hold a Second Mate’s ticket in the British Merchant Navy. The transportation of the two boats, in dismantled condition to the railhead at Broken Hill in Northern Rhodesia, thence overland through the Belgian Congo, through the Banguela Swamps and up the Lualaba River, areas infested with mosquito and Tsetse fly, turned into an epic of endurance which was later recounted in the book, The Phantom Flotilla, by Peter Shankland.\(^1\) The Tanganyika Naval Expedition, as it was officially known was

\(^1\) Coincidentally, while editing Brian’s tale, I was reading a book (how do I find the time?) entitled ‘Mimi and TouTou Go Forth, the bizarre battle of Lake Tanganyika’, by Giles Foden (Penguin Books ISBN-13: 978-0-14-100984-1) a humorous account of the expedition, in which Arthur is briefly mentioned, on account of his previous naval experience, as the Executive Officer - Ed.
reported in the London Gazette of 13 July 1917, although the expedition had been carried out in 1915 over several months. The heroic deeds and endurance of the participants was also reported in the New York Times of Aug 5 1917. For his efforts in this expedition Arthur was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross. After the war he remained in Northern Rhodesia and died in Lusaka in 1942. His file reference at NA Kew is ADM 337/119/123. I was advised in 1993 by Mr Witte of America that Arthur’s medals, minus the QSA, were in his collection.

**Walter Dennis Dudley**

Attested into the BSAP on 18 June 1901, and took his discharge, time expired on 17 June 1903. For this service he was awarded the QSA with two bars South Africa 1901 and South Africa 1902. Thereafter he is said to have settled to become a farmer in Rhodesia, but on the outbreak of the First World War enlisted into the Honourable Artillery Company and was granted a temporary commission into 17 (City of London) Battalion of the Royal Fusiliers on 8 December 1914 in the UK. He served in France, but appears to have had financial problems which brought about adverse comment from his superiors. Following various unsatisfactory reports he was forced to resign his commission in August 1916, but was not subjected to a court martial. His resignation was unusual in as much as that Army was at that time suffering from a severe shortage of officers. He returned to England and applied for funds to enable his return to South Africa, this was granted and letters in his file suggest that he did indeed return.

However, he must have returned to the UK as on the 7 July 1917 he applied for a Commission in the Royal Artillery. This was not granted because he died on 19 October 1917 aged 38 and is buried in the Brookwood Cemetery, Surrey. The Commonwealth War Graves Commission list him as a gunner, RA. The whereabouts of his 1914-18 medals is unknown. His file reference at NA Kew is WO 339/33517.

**George Vernon Dudley**

Attested into the BSAP on 2 December 1902 (No 424), and served until 14 January 1910. His career was chequered. In about 1905 he was in the vicinity of the Zambesi River when various events, including sculling races, were held to celebrate the opening of the Victoria Falls Bridge. One of his duties, with some other troopers was to clear the stretch of the river of hippopotami, and the use of BSAP resources for such slaughter was not to his liking. He was said to be an animal lover and did not enjoy killing animals of any kind. On another occasion he was further disillusioned, when during the visit of the Governor General of South Africa, seven hundred buck were allegedly slaughtered in a few days for the pleasure of the visiting delegation. He alleges that Police horse-drawn guns were used in the slaughter. He left the BSAP and moved to the gold mines on the Rand in South Africa for a year. But it was malaria and backwater fever that

| In memory of Mike Leach | 36 |
drove Dudley from Africa, and he left to join the Canadian Northwest Mounted Police where he served for two and a half years. His departure from the Mounties and arrival in Britain coincided with the outbreak of the First World War, and he enlisted into the Royal Field Artillery (RFA) a ‘gennery (sic) regiment’, and went to France. By the end of the conflict he was a major, and the holder of the DSO and the MC. The MC was gazetted in the London Gazette for 1 January 1918, and his DSO arrived 18 months later, awarded for Distinguished services in France and Flanders.

In 1920, Dudley left the Army and joined the Royal Irish Constabulary (RIC) in June, staying with that Force until 1922 with the rank of District Inspector. It was whilst he was serving with the RIC that he became involved in the incident known as Bloody Sunday at Croke Park, Dublin on 21 November 1920. That year witnessed the intensifying troubles in Ireland and on a Saturday 20 November 1920 a group of British Intelligence Officers were murdered by an IRA group known variously as The Twelve Apostles or The Squad, under the leadership of Michael Collins. The Sunday was the occasion of an Irish Football match at Croke Park. Members of the British Forces, the Black and Tans decided to search all males leaving the stadium and headed for Croke Park in a motorised convoy. On arrival at the stadium the Black and Tans opened fire on the crowd causing fourteen deaths before the firing was stopped by the arrival of Inspector Dudley who was in command of the Black and Tans, and a British auxiliary, Major E L Mills. Dudley was not at the head of the convoy, but seated in one of the middle vehicles, and when he arrived at the stadium the shooting had already started. There is some doubt as to whether the troops were fired upon when arriving at the stadium.

Dudley surfaces again in late 1921 at Magherafelt, between Belfast and Londonderry, where he allegedly embezzled £300 of expenses, due to other policemen. As a result he skipped the country to Glasgow where his wife and family were living. He was arrested and taken back to Dublin in the Spring of 1922. The result of his trial is unknown and he is next heard of working for a sugar cane company in Fiji in late 1922.

By 1923 he was in Australia where he applied for, and obtained the post of Commissioner of the Northern Territories Police, a newly-created position which he obtained by virtue of his varied military career and ‘good physique and presence and a notably military bearing’. He and his family arrived in Darwin to commence duties, on 19 March 1924. All went well for a time but about 1926 he started drinking heavily and accumulating debts in various local hotels and bars. George’s services were suddenly terminated in 1927 whilst he was on leave in South Australia, and to quote the official history of that Force, ‘the Department,
bent on economy and possibly eager to rid itself of a man who was not only no respector (sic) of persons but whose deeds were likely to jeopardise the welfare of his Police Force and the Territory as a whole, decided that a Commissioner was a luxury which it could no longer afford’. Dudley then served briefly with the Victoria Police and then in a succession of jobs that were all distinguished by the fact that they carried a requirement to wear a uniform. It seems that Dudley had a passion for uniforms and during weekends was said to don the uniform of a Boy Scout, presumably by now as a Scoutmaster. The outbreak of World War II was his chance to move on again and he was one of ‘the first to enlist’, this time into the Provost Corps but only for a short while before entering the Royal Australian Air Force as a drill instructor. During this time he became involved with escorting parties of Empire Air Training Scheme men overseas, and on one occasion he led a RAAF parade through the streets of New York, with the rank of Squadron Leader at the age of 60 – surely the oldest S/Ldr in the Air Force! His end came in 1949 when he was crushed between the dockside and a ferry reversing in Neutral Bay, Sidney.

Most of this story is told by George himself and recounted in the book, Patrol Indefinite published in 1963 by Rigby Ltd., Adelaide, South Australia. His alleged rise to the rank of Squadron Sgt Maj. by the age of 21, in the BSAP remains unconfirmed and is suspicious, and one wonders how much exaggeration has crept into the rest of his life story. These suspicions were inferred in an article which appeared in Outpost, in November 1975, and it is here that his relationship with Arthur and Walter are confirmed, this article was entitled The Dubious Doings of Dudley. George’s medals are now in the museum of the Northern Territories Police having been donated to the Territory by his widow in 1959 and consist of the DSO, MC, 1914-15 Star, named to him as 2/Lieut in the RFA, War medal and Victory medal named to him as an Actg Major, RFA, the latter with an oak-leaf. The 1939-45 War Medal and the Australian Service Medal. The last two being un-named as was contemporary practice. His file reference at NA Kew is WO 339/22143 and this file contains a reference supplied by Colonel Bodle, and on his application he states he served for seven years in the BSAP and two years in the Royal Canadian North-West Mounted Police.

So ends the known story of the Dudley Brothers, but there are many gaps and questions unanswered. Much of George’s story is verifiable, and hopefully readers in the areas touched upon by the three brothers in their careers may be able to come up with further information to complete their saga. Apart from the references quoted, I am indebted to Mr G A McKinley, Australia and Mr Michael Foley of Dublin for further information about George and Mr Clifford Rogers for further information about Walter.

5507 Brian Taylor

In memory of Henry Wolhuter
Written by Kids

How do you decide who to marry?
You got to find somebody who likes the same things. Like, if you like sports, she should like it that you like sports, and she should keep the crisps and dip coming.

Alan, age 10

No person really decides before they grow up who they're going to marry. God decides it long before, and you get to find out later who you're stuck with.

Kristen, age 10

What is the right age to get married?
Twenty-three is the best age because you know the person forever by then.

Camille, age 10

How can a stranger tell if two people are married?
You might have to guess. Are they yelling at the same kids?

Derrick, age 8

What do you think your Mum and Dad have in common?
Both don't want any more kids.

Lori, age 8

What do most people do on a date?
Dates are for having fun, and people should use them to get to know each other. Even boys have something to say if you listen long enough.

Lynnette, age 8 (isn't she a treasure monster?)

On the first date, they just tell each other lies and that usually gets them interested enough to go for a second date.

Martin, age 10

When is it alright to kiss someone?
When they're rich.

Pam, age 7

The law says you have to be eighteen, so I wouldn't want to mess with that.

Curt, age 7

The rule is: If you kiss someone, then you should marry them and have kids with them. It's the right thing to do.

Howard, age 8

Is it better to be married or single?
It's better for girls to be single but not for boys. Boys need someone to clean up after them.

Anita, age 9 (bless you child)

How would the world be different if people didn’t get married?
There sure would be a lot of kids to explain, wouldn't there?

Kelvin, age 8

And the number one favourite is ...

How would you make a marriage work?
Tell your wife that she looks pretty, even if she looks like a refuse truck.

Ricky, age 10

In memory of Allen Ferguson
Murder at Victoria Falls

May the fifteenth 1973 should not have been any different for the hard working district Policeman in Matabeleland North than any other day. The heat of summer was a distant memory and the signs of winter were evident. It was still a warm and very pleasant day.

Despite a global campaign to discourage tourists from visiting Rhodesia, The Falls was still a popular destination for the many who ignored the campaign, and the arrival of a group of backpackers travelling the length of Africa, caused no undue excitement. They were just a bunch of young people from Canada and America enjoying life, looking forward to exploring The Falls and the surrounding area. This was their first visit to Rhodesia, the following forty-eight hours were to have a massive and ever lasting impact upon their lives.

The border between Rhodesia and Zambia was closed other than to essential coal supplies from the Wankie coal mines to keep the copper belt smelters in Zambia functioning. Copper ingots were also being exported via Rhodesia, as the TanZam railway built by the Chinese, was non-operational. Deportees were also shipped across the bridge to Zambia and relations between the BSAP and the Zambian Police were good and co-operation regarding minor matters were resolved despite political differences.

A small hydro power station was situated in the Lantana gorge on the Zambian side of the river and this was guarded day and night by the Zambian Army. This small powerhouse supplied electrical power to the town of Livingstone. Needless to say the discipline of the Zambian Army was indifferent and firearm discharges were a frequent occurrence. Little attention was paid to such incidents although a note was normally made in the Occurrence Book.

Around 12:30 on this particular day there appeared to be a number of shots emanating from the Zambian side of the river. Immigration and Customs officers on duty at the border control reported that there may have been well over 100 shots heard and all from the area of the Lantana gorge. An armed patrol from the police visited the bridge area and all appeared to be normal. The incident was recorded as yet another accidental discharge by the Zambian army.

No further shots were heard during the course of the afternoon and peace and tranquility returned to Victoria Falls. That was until about 17:30, when, as we used to say, it all hit the fan. A member of the travelling group who had arrived the previous day reported to the police that a party consisting of an American couple and two young Canadian girls had entered the gorge in front of the Victoria Falls hotel with the intention of walking toward the main falls. This was a route that was closed to tourists due to the dangers of falling rocks and the uncertainty of relations with the Zambians. In previous years groups of terrorists had used a crossing point not too far away, to enter Rhodesia. A quick estimate of time and distance soon added up, and there was major concern now for the whereabouts and safety of the small group of tourists. A rescue team, which

In memory of Mike Lindley
consisted in the main of members of the police, entered the gorge some 1,000 yards from the powerhouse. The team consisted of about six members, one with a radio. The terrain at the bottom of the gorge was very tough going, and exhausting. Boulders, often three to four foot high, had to be negotiated. It was not until 01:00 that the area opposite the powerhouse was reached and it was here that the missing tourists were located and their terrifying ordeal revealed.

The scene was one of horror. The American couple were the first to be located. The man had numerous injuries on his body caused by bullet ricochets from the rocks. His major injury was to one of his eyes where a large splinter of rock could be seen embedded in the corner. Fortunately, they must have been partly concealed by large rocks as no direct bullet wounds were found. The rescue teams had a basic first aid kit and very basic first aid was rendered.

The American woman, by some miracle, was injury free but in a state of shock. She briefly told the team that when they reached the area opposite the powerhouse they saw the troops on the other side, waved to them and then they were fired upon. The American couple took cover behind some boulders. They were unable to give any indication as to the whereabouts of the two Canadian girls who had accompanied them. She estimated that the shooting lasted about ten minutes and this would have coincided with the shooting that had been heard during the course of the morning. She added that the shooting was without warning and for no apparent reason.

A nearby search located the body of Christine Sinclair. She had been shot many times and had head and chest wounds. She was completely exposed and was offered no protection whatsoever from the many shots that had been fired in her direction. Christine’s body was secured and made safe for later recovery. Further searches were conducted for the remaining girl, Marriyan Dribjer, but her body was not located.

Further members of the station had now joined the original team, bringing a stretcher with them. A small base-station had been set up near to the Victoria Falls hotel and radio contact established. The rescue team were encouraged by the news that a platoon of national service riflemen were being transported from Wankie and that the Rhodesian Air Force were on standby. The situation was developing into an international confrontation.

The problem now facing the team, was to move the wounded Americans, from the scene of the shooting. The time was now 03:00 and the team were concerned that come daylight they would be clearly visible to the Zambian army. Further shooting by the trigger-happy Zambians could not be ruled out. The American, Mr Crothers, was secured into the stretcher and carried and manhandled a distance of about 1,000 yards when the first signs of dawn became apparent. Mr Crothers was then carried and manhandled up an incline of some 100 feet to an area that was relatively flat and secure. Crothers was in a
poor condition and his health was rapidly deteriorating, pain, shock and exposure were evident. He was offered a painkilling injection which he declined, after it was established that nobody in the rescue team had ever administered an injection before. He was informed that somebody would read the instructions before administering the pain killer. He again declined the offer. During the whole time that he was being moved, pushed and shoved he remained completely silent.

At about 06:30 the team witnessed a most comforting sight - the appearance of four RhodAF Hunter aircraft. They flew directly over the rescue team a number of times, dipped their wings to show that they had seen us and then flew over the town of Livingston and back over the powerhouse where the Zambian troops had been. A wonderful sight and it was the first time for many hours that the rescue party and casualties felt reasonable safe and secure.

More by good luck than good judgment, the secure area was located just below the area where the base had been established. The team, on top of the gorge was able to lower refreshments and useful equipment in the form of saws and axes, to clear a landing zone for the helicopter. The RhodAF pilot had kindly agreed to land in the gorge and uplift the injured party and the rescue team. This was a massive encouragement to the team to clear an LZ and within an hour the task was complete. Mr Crothers was informed that there was a doctor waiting to treat his injuries and the team was delighted to know that they were going to be uplifted out the gorge. By this time they were both fatigued and hungry.

At about 10:00 the chopper appeared, did a quick recce. and landed with the skill and precise judgment that was the hallmark of RhodAF. The wounded American and his wife were loaded and quickly evacuated to an area of safety. Just before take off the pilot was asked how long it would be before he returned to uplift the rescue team and his reply is unprintable and unfit for a young policeman to hear. He basically said that he was not going to risk the helicopter for a bunch of bloody rock-climbing cops and they could climb out of the gorge as far as he was concerned. The team was very disappointed and eventually made their way out of the gorge and arrived at the base at about 12:00 hours. They considered that they had carried out a task in a professional manner and in the true tradition of the BSAP. They still knew that they would have to re enter the gorge the following day to recover Sinclair’s body and make further efforts to locate the missing girl.

Members of the Victoria Falls Hotel catering staff welcomed the rescue team and provided much needed refreshments, while an officer passed adverse comment regarding the team’s radio procedure, and said it was not as laid down in Standing Orders. Oh, well, you can never satisfy everybody. Thus ended a most demanding, but satisfying 24 hours for members of the rescue team.

In memory of Mike Plant
Subsequent events and follow-up actions.

The following day reassurance was given by the Zambian Government that the police could return to the gorge area opposite the powerhouse to recover the bodies of their alleged saboteurs without any interference. Sinclair’s body was recovered but Dribjer’s was never located. It is possible that once the shooting started she may have been wounded and fallen into the river or she may have attempted to swim away from the danger. The current in that part of the gorge would have made swimming impossible and she would undoubtedly have been swept away and drowned.

Over 100 bullets marks were counted in the area where the party had been fired upon and fragments of bullets were later examined and identified by Don Hollingsworth as having been fired from British Bren guns left in Zambia after the break-up of the Federation.

A very junior diplomat from the Canadian High Commission, in Lusaka, graced the Rhodesians with his presence, and he conceded that the Canadian girls were tourists visiting the country and had no connection whatsoever with the Rhodesian authorities.

Sinclair’s body was repatriated to Canada via South Africa, by the visiting diplomat. Her father, a reverend and supposed man of God, refused to visit Rhodesia as he did not want to visit a country that had apartheid laws in force.

A sketch plan (not to scale) of the area to the east of Victoria Falls township. The Victoria Falls Hotel, Lantana Gorge and the Zambian powerhouse are marked. H is where the helicopter landed to pick up the Drijbers.

In memory of Hank Hankinson

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The sheer ignorance of the outside world by many North Americans is truly amazing – Ed.)

The missing girl’s father arrived in Rhodesia a few days later and stayed for about a month in the hope that his daughter’s body would be recovered. He visited Zambia during that time and met the President, Kenneth Kaunda.

The Zambian President made a national broadcast a few days after the shooting, to say that those shot had been seen assembling sub-aqua equipment and one of the party had entered the river. He went on to say that it was their intention to destroy the powerhouse and deprive Livingstone of electricity in order that the town could be attacked by Rhodesian Forces. No doubt he was waving his ubiquitous silk handkerchief during his speech. It later transpired that this ridiculous nonsense had been dreamt up by his army chief.

A request was made to the Zambian Police for investigations to be made by them regarding the shooting, but they refused any form of co-operation.

The Americans were treated at Wankie Hospital and eventually returned to the States. They never made contact with the police at Victoria Falls and did not bother to thank the teams for their efforts.

The American Embassy in Lusaka never contacted their citizens while in Rhodesia, or the police.

Mr Dribjer returned to Rhodesia the following year. The reason for his return was never entirely established, but again he was a guest of the Rhodesian Government. A number of individuals were of the opinion that he was enjoying the limelight associated with the whole affair.

A full inquest was held, and, if I remember correctly, murder dockets were opened by CID Wankie. I doubt if action has ever been taken to identify those responsible.

The reason for the shooting was never fully established by the police, but shortly before this incident terrorist attacks had started in the North east of Rhodesia, and a few months previously a landmine detonation had killed a member of the security forces in the Victoria Falls area. Maybe it was the open season against Rhodesia and a sign of the events that were to affect our lives for the next seven years.

6721 Peter Russell

In memory of

Section Officer 7961 Duncan Hope McKAY
a member of the gorge rescue team who was
killed in action on 2 January 1977 in the Chipinga area.

In memory of Ted Fee
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.

7178 Cornelius Marais Joubert died on 29 May 2012 in the Clatterbridge Cancer Centre, Liverpool, England. Cornelius, who was not a member of the Association, served from 25 October 1964 to 6 November 1970 leaving in the rank of Patrol Officer.

PR Rodger Harry Slater died on 4 June 2012 at St George’s Hospital, Port Elizabeth, South Africa. Rod suffered a fall at his home in Humansdorp in early May suffering a fractured pelvis and as a result was admitted to St George’s Hospital. Rod was a staunch member of the Eastern Cape Branch of the Association.

4549 Kenneth Gordon (Ken) Stanford-Smith died on 20 June 2012 in a hospice in Liverpool, England, aged 86 years. Ken was born in the port city of Chittagong, Bengal (now part of Bangladesh). He joined the BSAP on 17 January 1950 and served until 30 September 1977 retiring with the rank of Staff Inspector. During his early service Ken served mostly in Mashonaland District, but also did a short spell at Victoria Falls. He was later seconded to the Staff Branch and was the man who helped keep police ordnance stores stocked and the Force supplied for many years. Ken was also prominent in Regimental Association circles, having been the Hon. Secretary of the Central Branch of the Association for many years and latterly as a member of the UK Branch of the Association. Ken, and his wife Dot, were the authors of the BSAP nominal roll, a project thoroughly researched and collated over a few years which was eventually published in Blue and Old Gold, the history of the BSAP. Ken had a special place in his heart for the mentally challenged and helped those organisations concerned with their welfare in his spare time in addition to his interests in the Scouting movement.

4767/5717 Graeme Stuart (Steve) Stevens died on 7 July 2012 in Howick, Kwazulu Natal, South Africa from cancer. Steve, who was Chairman of the Natal Midlands Branch of the Association, initially served from 16 July 1951 to 15 July 1954. After leaving Steve did his National Service with the Royal Air Force before returning to Rhodesia and re-joining the Force on 14 May 1957 serving until 12 November 1977 when he retired with the rank of Detective Chief.
Inspector. As a uniformed officer Steve was stationed at Wedza and Inyazura before joining CID where at one stage he was the Forensic Science Liaison Officer at CID Headquarters and also served on the Homicide Section in Salisbury. Steve, who was a keen yachtsman and chess player, emigrated to South Africa after leaving the Force.

6994 Colin Barry Johnn died on 8 July 2012 in Nambour, Queensland, Australia from lung cancer. Colin, who was a member of the Queensland Branch of the Association, first joined the Force in December 1962 as a Cadet before attesting as a regular on 30 July 1963 serving until 31 July 1980 when he transferred to the ZRP where he served until 9 August 1984 retiring from that Force with the rank of Inspector. A district man, Colin served in all of Rhodesia’s provinces during his service, he was also involved in recruiting at Tomlinson Depot and had a role in Q-Rep at PGHQ towards the end of his career. Colin emigrated to Australia in 1984.

4105 Albert Brenden (Bert) Freemantle PMM died peacefully in his sleep on 17 July 2012 in Perth, Australia. Bert, who was born in Dublin, was called up at the outbreak of World War II with the Queen’s Own Dorset Yeomanry serving in the Middle East. He transferred to the Parachute Regiment in early 1943 and served in North Africa and Italy. He was captured at the Battle of Arnhem and held until June 1945, when he re-joined his regiment and served a further year before demobilising. Bert joined the BSA Police on 26 June 1946 serving initially in Bulawayo and then in Gatooma District. On his promotion to Assistant Superintendent in December 1963 he took over the command of the new Support Unit, which had just been upgraded from the Askari Platoon, and modelled this often unsung unit into a credible fighting force. Following a lengthy stay in Tomlinson Depot, Bert commanded a few Districts before taking over as Officer Commanding Victoria Province in 1976 after being promoted to Senior Assistant Commissioner. He retired on 31 December 1977 later emigrating to Australia.

5293 Trevor Dutton died on 23 July 2012 at his home in Gillets, Kwazulu Natal, South Africa following a short illness. Trevor was born in Stafford, England in 1936. Following school, Trevor served two years as a Cadet with the Staffordshire County Constabulary then, aged 18, had to choose between joining the Grenadier Guards or the BSA Police. He decided on the BSA Police and joined on 19 September 1954. After Depot, Trevor served in Gwelo Town, Gwelo Rural and Shabani before joining CID in Bulawayo. He later transferred to CID Headquarters. On his promotion in 1965 he became Member i/c, CID/SB Bindura from where he retired on gratuity on 22 May 1967 with the rank of Detective Inspector. Trevor was a railway enthusiast, who had a life-long
Ambition to drive a train, and eventually did so under strict supervision. He was an extremely active member of the Natal Branch Committee and the dedicated and much respected Editor of the Natal Outpost magazine, in which he took a huge amount of pride and dedicated much of his time. This was evident in the high standards which he achieved and the wide readership the magazine enjoyed.

[I am forever grateful to Trevor for his support, encouragement and assistance when I commenced as editor of the The UK Outpost. He also freely permitted me to copy any article from The Natal Outpost - Ed.]

6780 Graham Allan (Spats) Jansen died on 4 August 2012 in Cape Town, South Africa. Graham, who was an active member of the Western Cape Branch of the Association, served from 8 November 1962 to 31 July 1980 when he transferred to the Zimbabwe Republic Police where he served until 8 November 1981 retiring from that Force with the rank of Inspector. He served mainly in Uniform Branch in Salisbury Province and Depot and had represented both the Police and National teams in service and combat pistol shooting. Graham emigrated to South Africa settling in Cape Town, where at one stage he ran a small business in Fishhoek.

9209 PR Raymond James (Ray) Herran died on 18 August 2012 at the Mater Dei Hospital, Bulawayo, Zimbabwe after a brief illness. Ray served in Gwelo as an Inspector in the ‘A’ Reserve and was a former Secretary of the Matabeleland Branch of the Association.

6746/8520 Neale Robert (Nick) Fletcher died on 19 August 2012 in Howick, Kwa Zulu, Natal, South Africa peacefully in his sleep. Nick initially served from 27 September 1962 to 30 September 1969 leaving at his own request. He re-attested on 30 September 1970 and served until 3 July 1974 leaving in the rank of Patrol Officer.

5095/5897 Robert Kenneth (Bob) Papenfus died on 21 August 2012 in Johannesburg, South Africa after a long illness. Bob initially served from 9 August 1953 to 8 August 1956. He re-attested on 13 October 1958 and served until 31 July 1980 when he transferred to the Zimbabwe Republic Police where he served until 2 June 1981 retiring from that Force with the rank of Detective Chief Inspector. Bob spent most of his service in the CID; he was a renowned investigator with the speciality in scenes of crime and also spent some time in the fingerprint bureau where he was highly regarded. Having retired, Bob emigrated to Johannesburg and attested into the South African Police retiring as a Colonel when reaching the mandatory retirement age of 60. His expertise in fingerprints and photography were of invaluable service to the SAP. Bob was a renowned shottist and represented Rhodesia at Bisley in 1980.
Betty Neale. It is with deepest regret that we advise the death Betty, wife of 4996 John Neale to cancer on 9 August 2012 in Godalming, Surrey, England.

Brenda Braes. It is with sadness we announce the death of Brenda, widow of 3803 Andy Braes on 9 July 2012 in St John’s Hospital, Livingstone, Scotland.

Pat Houghton. We are sad to announce the death of Pat, widow of 4456 Guy Houghton, on 14 July 2012 in South Africa after a long illness.

6078/7222 John Radford was murdered during the night of 19/20 August 2012 near Kirkwood, about 100 kms north of Port Elizabeth, South Africa. John served initially from 28 October 1959 to 12 October 1963, originally as a remount rider who participated in the Queen Mother’s Escort and then serving at Beitbridge and Bulawayo. He re-attested on 4 January 1965 serving in Information Room, Salisbury and Salisbury Province Dog Section before leaving on 4 January 1968 with the rank of Patrol Officer. He was once a member of the Transvaal Branch of the Association and was living in Kirkwood at the time of his death.

4072 Dermot Henry (Paddy) Allen died on 25 August 2012 in Mount Edgecombe, Durban, South Africa. Paddy, who was a member of the Natal Branch of the Association, served from 11 June 1946 to 2 July 1978 retiring with the rank of Assistant Commissioner. Paddy spent much of his service in Salisbury Province taking up various commands, on promotion, in the Salisbury Central and Salisbury South Districts.

4789 Edmundson (Eddie) Matchett PMM died on 26 August 2012 in the Lagan Valley Hospital, Lisburn, Northern Ireland, aged 81 years, following a long illness. Eddie, who was a member of the UK Branch of the Association, served from 8 October 1951 to 30 July 1980 when he transferred to the ZRP where he served until 31 May 1983 retiring from that Force with the rank of Chief Inspector. Eddie initially served with the Mounted Troop in Salisbury District before joining the Farriers in 1956. He was ever to be involved with police horses and was an equitation instructor for the rest of his police career.

Eddie represented the police in competitive show jumping and was also a polo player.

4158 Tim Weimer
BSAP Association

United Kingdom Branch - Committee

Chairman: 6905 Peter Phillips, 28 Cemmaes Court Road, Hemel Hempstead, Herts HP1 1SU  Tel: 01442 244919  E-mail: peterbp@lineone.net

Deputy Chairman and Trustee: 7391 Alan Toms, High Trees, Manor Road, Wickhamford, Evesham, Worcestershire WR11 7SA  Tel: 01386 831541  E-mail: antoms1@btinternet.com

Hon. Secretary: 6001 Alistair Black, Flat 5 The Coachyard, 372A Tonbridge Road, Barming, Kent ME16 8TT  Tel:01622 728481  E-mail: bsapuk@aol.com

Assistant Secretary: 7359 Bertie Cubitt, Fritton 55 Church Road, Elmstead Nr. Colchester, Essex CO7 7AW  Tel: 01206 822814  E-mail: bsapuk2@aol.com

Hon. Treasurer: WP 199 Linda Robertson, 10 Hisman's Field, Bishops Cleeve, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire GL52 8LQ  Tel: 01242 677551  E-mail: bsap_treasurer@chaglim.plus.com

Editor Outpost and Functions Sec: 6609 Parry Jones, 18 Roman Way, Thrapston, Northants NN14 4TE  Tel: 01832 732668  Mob: 07954 177394  E-mail: outpost.unitedkingdom@bsap.org

Almoner: 7211 Peter Biddulph, South Lodge Farm, 380 Wateringbury Road, East Malling, West Malling, Kent ME19 6JJ  Tel: 01622 812297  Mob: 07986 565 079  E-mail: pwb7211@gmail.com

Member: 6630 Jim Hazlett, 33 Hill Farm Avenue, Whitestone, Nuneaton, Warks CV11 6TA  Tel: 02476 343176  E-mail: BSAPDVD@aol.com

Member: 5975 Mike Abbotts, 8 Camphill Court, West Byfleet, Surrey KT14 6EQ  Tel: 01932 349373  Mob: 07575 268429  E-mail: michael.abbotts1@btinternet.com

Trustees

Trust Coordinator: 9086 Tony Granger, The Harridge, 11 Melbourne Rise, Bilton Heath, Shrewsbury, Shropshire SY3 5DA  Tel: 01743 360827  E-mail: tonygranger@hotmail.com

4853 Fred Punter, Mhlaloenhle, 182 St Neots Road, Sandy, Bedfordshire  SG19 1BU  Tel: 01767 223393  E-mail: bsap4853@virginmedia.com

10577 Jim Harris, 5 Abingdon Road, Didcot, Oxon OX11 9BL  Tel: 01235 519924  E-mail:jharris@hcbgroup.co.uk

7391 Alan Toms, see above under Deputy Chairman.
Regional Representatives

**Ireland** - 5584 John Berry, 20, Strand Palace Apts, Youghal, County Cork, Ireland. Tel: 00353 24 20573  E-mail - jb5584@eircom.net

**North West** - 4933 Rod Wilson, Flat No 3, 39 Digg Lane, Moreton, Wirral CH46 6AG  Tel: 0151 6051333  E-mail: rodwil2@tiscali.co.uk

**Scotland** - 7784 Steve Acornley, 6 Foxknow Place, Eliburn, Livingstone, West Lothian EH54 6TX  Tel: 01506 466593  E-mail - sacornley@hotmail.co.uk

**South West** - 5956 Dave Kennedy, Matambhega, 13 Penwithick Road, Penwithick, St Austell, Cornwall PL26 8UQ  Tel: 01726 851258  E-mail: plumville@btinternet.com

Overseas Branches

**Australia:** John Seward, 9/71 Epsom Avenue, Redcliffe 6104, Western Australia Tel: (H) (8) 9277 3396  E-mail: olivos@primus.com.au

**Border:** Bruce Beukman  E-mail: lesprop@imaginet.co.za

**Central:** Sec & Newsletter, Peter Bellingham, 6 Clifton Road, Harare  E-mail: pjb@mango.zw

**Eastern Cape:** Rob Clarke, Hon Sec. PO Box 27648, Greenacres, Port Elizabeth 6057  Tel Res: +27413671642 Mobile: +27836516914 E-mail: ropac@telkomsa.net

**Mashonaland:** Red O’Connell, PO Box 1860, Harare, Zimbabwe  E-mail: hon.sec.mashonaland@bsap.org

**Matabeleland:** Denise Hurry, wife of 9499 Karl Hurry.  Att. K. Hurry, C/O Guard Alert, 135 Jason Moyo Street (Between 13th and 14th Avenues), Bulawayo, Zimbabwe  E-mail: karden@yoafrica.com

**Natal:** Des Howse, P O Box 3019, Assagay, Kwa-Zulu Natal 3624, Republic of South Africa  Tel: 031-7621010  Mob: 083-4406740  E-mail: deshowse@afrihost.co.za.

**Natal Midlands:** Alan Bennett, 51 Uplands Road, Blackridge, Pietermaritzburg 3201 Tel (H): 033-3441122  Mob: 0722863393  E-mail: alanthomas.bennett@yahoo.com

**New Zealand:** E R C (Ted) Preston  2/16 Napier Avenue, Takapuna, Auckland 0622  Tel: + 64 9 4886705  E-mail: tedpreston@xtra.co.nz

**Queensland:** Mike Edden  E-mail: michaeledd@hotmail.com

**Transvaal:** Dick Glanville, PO Box 8389, Johannesburg, 2000  Tel: (H) 011 477 2793  Fax: 086 518 8562  Mob: 082 739 1432  E-mail: dickg@telkomsa.net

**United States of America:** Will Cornell, 17462 Walnut Street, Yorba Linda, California 92886-1827  Tel: 001 714 993 1975  E-mail: bsapusa@aol.com

**Western Cape:** Neville Spurr, 15 Stanford Road, Claremont 7708, South Africa  Tel: (H) 021 782 0339  Mob: 082 456 1240  E-mail: nevillespurr@gmail.com

5358 Mick York