# Outpost

**NEWSLETTER OF**  
THE BRITISH SOUTH AFRICA POLICE REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION  
WESTERN CAPE BRANCH  
8 Glass Furnace Way, Glencairn, Simon's Town, 7975  
Phone: 021 782 0339  
westerncape@bsap.org

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*Cover Picture: The Queen Mother arriving at the ‘Native Indaba’ with BSAP Mounted Escourt - Salisbury Showgounds - 1960*
Memories Need Not Fade With Time

On the wall in my office I have a picture of the 1958 Manchester United Football team affectionately known as “The Busby Babes”. The picture was taken a couple of weeks before many of them died in that fatal air disaster on 6 February in Munich. It brings back memories of the team I used to watch as a youngster and of the time when I stood on the side of the road in silence with thousands of other people watching the procession of hearses carrying the bodies to Old Trafford. Memories not to be forgotten.

Occupying a prominent place on the wall the picture attracts a lot of interest from many of the visitors to my office. A number of months ago a young man came to my office and on seeing the picture enquired about it. Although he professed to being a United supporter knew nothing of that tragic disaster. I explained the significance of it to him.

He then asked me how long I had lived in South Africa. I went on to explain that I came out from England in 1963 and had gone to Rhodesia. There was a puzzled look on his face and he asked “Where is that?” It made me realise that this young man, in his early twenties, has not heard of Rhodesia having grown up in the era of Zimbabwe. Our brief conversation brought home to me the realisation of how quickly memories fade and history becomes lost unless there is something to keep that memory alive.

At our Annual General Meeting on 1 March, Alan Toms, who was in Cape Town on holiday from the UK, kindly gave an update on the BSA Police Memorial and outlined the arrangements for its unveiling on 25 July 2010. Alan is obviously a better “salesman” than me for after he had left the meeting a proposal was tabled from the floor recommending that five hundred pounds be made as a donation to the Memorial Fund from the Western Cape Association. This proposal was unanimously approved by those present at the meeting. I was extremely pleased at this outcome as I had, at two previous functions, attempted to elicit donations from members but had come away virtually empty handed. It was gratifying to see a change of heart. Alan was particularly pleased when I told him that the meeting had agreed to send a donation to the Memorial Fund.

I congratulate the UK Associations’ initiative to erect a Memorial as a reminder to future generations that the British South Africa Police existed and what the Force stood for. It is not being erected as a monument to the deceased but as a tribute and celebration to honour everyone who served in the BSA Police since its inception in 1889.

I keep in contact with several ex members of the Force currently living in the UK and it is heart-warming to hear how many will be attending the unveiling of the Memorial. Just goes to show that the spirit of camaraderie that existed in the Force all those years ago still remains as strong as ever.

As the picture on my wall reminds me of that fateful day in 1958, so too, I believe, the Memorial will make future generations aware of the existence of the BSA Police, one of the finest police forces the world has known.

Jim Blain
Dear Tony and Neville,

I apologise for not having contacted you sooner but I would like to thank you for Western Cape's generous donation to the BSAP Memorial Fund. I can assure you it will be put to good use. As I said last Monday, in addition to constructing the Memorial we are having the Roll of Honour laid up in the Chapel at the Arboretum and will be producing a souvenir programme and DVD of the occasion which will be available to all. We are anticipating a good many members attending and would like to have a representative attend from each Branch, hopefully we will see you there.

Thanks once again.
Kind Regards,
Alan Toms

The cover picture of issue 65 of the Cape Outpost brought back many happy memories. What outstanding Civic Officials Salisbury had over many years to create roads and vistas such as Jameson Avenue. On the extreme left stands the Presbyterian Church where many members of the Force were happily married, even after the construction of the BSAP Chapel in Morris Depot. The “Chapel Fund” was a slightly devious programme of the then Commissioner. Of course it didn't happen that promotions might be affected by lets call it “donor failure” but the whole matter of the fund raising amongst the ranks was not a happy scene. Returning to the cover, next to the Church is Charter House, the headquarters of the Anglo American Corporation – formerly the BSACo.

In the early 1970’s the writer, then the Secretary and Comptroller to the President Clifford Dupont visited the Chairman of Anglo American Corp. Sir Frederick Crawford at Charter House. In the basement of the building were stored some old wooden boxes and in one of these we found a BSACo flag which Sir Frederick gave to Government House, Salisbury.

Government House Salisbury had a very fine reception room with its centre piece being a large fireplace with a portrait of Cecil Rhodes above. The BSACo flag and the National Flag of Rhodesia were placed on either side of the fireplace on the instructions of the President. President Dupont, himself at one time a Police Reservist was a great admirer of the BSAP and of the BSA Company. The BSACo flag and the National flag, which changed when our
country for a short period became Zimbabwe Rhodesia remained in situ until it was “recovered” by the writer during the early part of the “occupation” by the Governor Lord Soames when the Rhodesian flag was recognised by some unimportant minion on the Governor’s staff. I cannot claim to have folded the two flags in any ceremonial way but they remained in my safe keeping.

In 1986 I loaned the BSACompany Flag to the BSAPolice Association in Cape Town and ever since the flag has been on display at the Annual Dinner of the Association.

**Don Peters 6158**

Dear Neville,

Many thanks for the latest "Outpost" - a fine effort which sent me on a long trip down ‘memory lane’.

One item in particular "Manhunt with Dave Riley" evoked poignant memories. At the time of that murder I was a D/I looking after SOC Bulawayo and I well remember being hauled out of bed early on Christmas Day to attend the scene in the Inyati District (can't remember if that was still the late Sam Weller's fiefdom or not).

The suspect UTA was a notorious and very crafty known criminal in the area who had a long-standing grudge against this particular farmer (Williams?) and had made previous attacks against the farmer and his property.

(On one previous occasion he had reportedly severed the power cable and put the cut end into the swimming bath to electrocute his intended victims - fortunately only tripping the switches in the process).

Following the murder the manhunt was pursued with great diligence by ,inter alia, Dave and his dog, and a ground force assisted by some embryonic air surveillance. This forced him to flee ever further up into the Gwaai area where, as Dave says, he could take no more and shot himself.

In the process he literally blew his own head off, so when the corpse eventually arrived in the morgue he had no identifying features left and it was final gruesome task to fingerprint the corpse and confirm it to be that of UTA.

Although this all happened some fifty years ago - and I doubt I have thought of it since - it was all there deep in the memory banks somewhere.

So, regards to Dave (have I ever seen him since??) and to you for presenting his side of what was an interesting case, successfully concluded!

Best Regards

**Peter Shout (Snr.) 4333**

Mrs Irene Baker, widow of the late (4950) John Baker, writes to say she still receives the Outpost and requests that if any of his old BSAP compatriots have any photos of John, she would really appreciate a copy.
The Editor,  
Western Cape Outpost.  

In the February edition of the Cape Outpost, Tony Rozemeyer, in his introduction to his article on Trauma Counselling, quoted a passage from ex Commissioner Hickman: -

“One of the characteristics of the BSA Police is that of fellowship – a bond which exists between present and past members of the Force”. How true this is, was forcefully (no pun intended) brought home to me during my recent illness when I received innumerable telephone calls wishing me well from colleagues around the Country. These calls were not only from those that I served and was stationed with but also from several members whom I had never previously met. The concern and good wishes of all gave me no end of encouragement and certainly proves Commissioner Hickman's comment to be true.

Happily I am now recovering, and after being fitted with a pacemaker in the near future, should be soon back to full health. Through your pages I should like to thank all for their concern and best wishes.

Dave WADDON 5675/7285

*The following letter from 4727 Mike Edden in Australia – passed on from Rob Maclean.*

**Morning Rob,**

Thank you for your Easter greetings.

I thoroughly enjoyed reading your trip on the Lake, especially being accompanied by a Houseboat which combined with the exercise turned the trip into a magnificent holiday.

I truly envied you but, at 79 with acute canal stenosis of the spine and torn rotary cuffs in the left shoulder, my paddling days are over - pity!

I have actually turned the Zambezi Expedition into a coffee table album but it cost me over Aus$200 so only three have been done, my copy which will stay with Debbie when I am gone, one for Roz and the last for young Tony. However, I am debating self publishing it with Blurb, an American company, as my memoirs were accepted by 30degrees South and then the offer was withdrawn last year for economic reasons, so I am going to self-publish that and then consider the Zambezi Expedition.

I am in contact with Andy Field and may well leave both books on the website. We shall see.

I think your brother is crackers to even consider returning to Zim at this time but I know the feeling as Rosemary still hankers for the place even after a 10 day trip back there last year to visit our eldest son David.

Oh well, had a great lunch yesterday with 5 ex-BSAP and Goofy Lawrence (Sportsman of the Year 1962); an ex Bata Executive and two South African
Great to hear from you and I will pass on your good wishes to Deb tonight.

Mike

Hi Tony,
Congratulations to you, your editor and committee on your recent 65th Western Cape Outpost.

Regarding your disappointment with the new "Blue and Old Gold"... No page(s) reflecting a chronological listing of names, short history of, and photographs of the Commissioners of the British South Africa Police who served this Force with great distinction"

These were exactly my feelings about 3 years ago and was the reason I researched this subject and finally wrote a small book about the lives of all the Commissioners. John Berry did the page set up, design and proof reading with other contributions, Alan Stock also helped. The book "Commanding the Regiment" was published by the UKBranch of the Association towards the end of 2008 and is now in the third print run. It is available at a cost of GBP6 plus postage from Bertie Cubitt bsapuk2@aol.com. I believe it is an essential addition to every former member's collection of books.

Best wishes,
Fred. 4853

Hi Folks
Extracted from the RWW "Where are they Now" - perhaps you can help:

Mick Blamey
Looking for the following ex BSAP members of Squad 5/60: Barry Bennett; Jerry Lousade; Pat Kelly; Eryl Worton; John Haswell; Brian Kemp; Phill White; Sid Heppes; Chris Minifie; Bruce Vivian; John Oldknow; as next year 13th July is our 50th!!! Would like to know where you are and chances of us all getting together & touch base as to what we have been doing over a beer or two!
Contact: 6193 Peter Good - pcwggood@yahoo.co.uk
Regards
Eddy Norris
The 41st Annual General Meeting of the BSA Police Association of the Western Cape was held at Timour Hall. Monday 1st March, 2010.

After the Chairman had welcomed all those present, a minute's silence was held for those ex members who had passed away during the year.

The Chairman's Report was presented by Tony Rozemeyer and the Treasurers Report by Ed Ions.

The following Committee Members were elected for the forthcoming year.
Chairman – Jim Blain
Secretary – Neville Spurr
Treasurer – Ed Ions
Outpost Editor – Lawrie Mabin
Member – Tony Rozemeyer
Member – Lockie Howie
Member – Dave Riley
Associate Member – Wendy Meyer

Alan Toms from the UK Association addressed the meeting in regard to 'The Last Parade', the official ceremony and unveiling of the BSAP Memorial to take place on the 24th and 25th July, 2010, in the National Memorial Arboretum in Rutland, UK. It was proposed, and the meeting agreed that the Western Cape Association would donate five hundred pounds to this fund.

The meeting closed at 1900 hrs.

The following members (24) were in attendance.
6780 G. Jansen 8151 L. Mabin
5860 D. Grierson 5689 G. Potter
6226 A. Stevens 5098 D. Riley
5217 N. Harris 5483 D. Blacker
8302 N. McRiill 6893 B. Oberholster
15414 D. Brown 5795 G. Reade
6222 R. Traill 7544 D. Hawks
8714 J. Munro 5959 J. Marriot
8299 M. Reeler 6900 M. Gee
8173 L. Howie 6494 T. Rozemeyer
6639 B. Beddingham 6874/8032 N. Spurr
6846 J. Blain 7391 A. Toms (UK member)

Apologies were received from the following members: George Stuart, Percy Hadfield, Dave Rogers, Rob O'Molony, Wendy Meyer, Mike Mays, Peter Shout, Rod Eterman, Stan Mcmillan, Richard Horn, Guy Bekker, Jan Steenkamp, Andrew Wood, Traves Nettleton, Peter Watermeyer.
Dates To Diarise
Ladies Lunch – Sunday 18th July, 2010, Mowbray Golf Club
Annual Dinner – Saturday 11th September, 2010, Mowbray Golf Club
Christmas Function – Monday 6th December, 2010, Timour Hall.
Monthly Gatherings the first Monday of the month at Timour Hall
5th July
2nd August
6th September
4th October
1st November
It is always interesting to note the different and diverse jobs which ex members of the BSAP are, or have been involved in since leaving the Force. PR 653117 Dave Acker, is one such person. Dave has been a loyal and very supportive member of the Western Cape Association for a long time but I'm sure not many of our members know what an unusual and interesting job he has. In August, 2009, the Cape Times, under the feature article 'Real Jobs Real People' wrote an interesting profile of Dave Acker and what his job entailed.

Dave is a Master Distiller responsible for processing as well as research and development at Oude Molen Distillery in Grabouw. His many tasks include the responsibility for the manufacture of distilled products including neutral spirit, gin, liqueurs, brandy, whiskies and rum. Dave has qualifications in biochemistry, microbiology and analytical chemistry. He has worked in various liquor institutions in England, Scotland, Germany, Switzerland, Holland, France and the USA.

In 2006 Dave was very instrumental in the opening of the new distillery in Elgin/Grabouw. Those who have visited the distillery will testify to the magnificent building and surrounds. Daily tours are available which include a fascinating audio visual presentation followed by close up sights of the working distillery and the large copper potstills – nicknamed “Big Bertha” and “Long Tom”. For those members interested in a tour to Oude Molen you may contact Dave direct, or for further info telephone 021 859 2517 or visit www.oudemolen.co.za.

Dave adds that he learned most of 'the tricks of the trade' from an ardent Police Reservist (Marlborough), “Chips” Page-Wood who was his boss when he worked for Gilberts Distillers on the Sinoia Road between Mt Hampden and Gwebi. Chip’s mentor was none other than Donald Gilbert, founder of Gilberts Distillery, who himself was a well known London Distiller. Gilberts later merged with African Distillers, J. Sedgwick and Stellenbosch Farmers Winery. African Distillers still operate out of their premises on the old Sinoia Road.

The committee and members would like to take this opportunity of thanking Dave for all the donations over the years to our Christmas Raffles and various Draws, including the 12 year old potstilled brandy which was raffled at last months monthly gathering at Timour Hall.

The Editor
SA MANAGEMENT

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The soccer match was on 1st October 1972 in Salisbury, there was a return match the following year in Malawi. It is now a long time ago and I have forgotten the details but Gombera (this is a very common surname in Malawi) was a Nyasaland Police member, I think with some outstanding sporting achievement.

The initial suggestion came from Malawi and I (was SO.W&S) organised the inaugural match with the idea that it would be an annual fixture, BSAP against Malawi Police. The BSAP team was chosen from all provinces, mainly on their performance at the Commissioner’s Shield competition. I think John Baker was one of the selectors and possibly Jim Blain (don't know where he is now) It appears that after I left SO W&S this match faded away.

Fred Punter
Peter Bellingham reports from Harare that he is in the process of obtaining 10 and 15 years Service Medals which are still held in PGHQ. Peter has obtained medals for the ex members whose names appear above and will forward those medals on to the relevant Branch Secretaries, if requested to do so. If anybody knows the whereabouts of those members above – please advise them accordingly. Peter states that there are more medals held at PGHQ and he anticipates obtaining more medals in due course – but he does request that individual members please not contact him direct unless he advertises the fact that he has got their medal.

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Internal Situation
There has been some small improvement in the general internal situation in Zimbabwe, but the so-called power sharing Government is not working effectively. While some problems may seem to be getting better, others remain as bad as ever or even worse. One change is that the US dollar and the SA rand have replaced the former Zimbabwe dollar, which virtually has disappeared. There is no run-away price inflation as there was before, but with almost total unemployment and little economic activity most people remain desperately short of money of any kind.

Hopes of a pension allowance payment outside Zimbabwe
As far as Public Service pensioners are concerned, most of them will now have heard that the Director of the Government Pensions Office had said in September last year that he was seriously hoping that he would be authorised and enabled to pay pension allowances of some amount in US$ to pensioners now living outside Zimbabwe, whether or not they had formally emigrated. This follows news that some mining companies and other corporations had managed to make small US$ interim payments to pensioners outside Zimbabwe.

On the basis of that information, which was confirmed by the British Consul in Harare, the news was spread among all Public Services pensioners by the OSPA (through the notice in the last journal) and by other pensioners' associations in Britain, South Africa, Australia and elsewhere, that they should provide certain documents which would be sent to the Pensions Office so that payments could be made if the Zimbabwe Governments decided.

In South Africa Mr John Redfern, the honorary National Secretary of the Flame Lily Foundation (FLF), mounted a vigorous information campaign that led to his receiving over 785 completed responses from pensioners in that region, and these were transmitted to the Director of Pensions in Harare. The Director is still engaged in processing all those applications. The OSPA office in Tonbridge has received 336 responses from pensioners in Britain and many other countries including Australia, New Zealand, Canada and elsewhere in Europe. The Pensions Office Director continues to say that he is not ready to receive these applications, but he will tell us as soon as he wants them to be sent to him. They are therefore still being held safely in the OSPA office until we are asked to transmit them to Harare.

Despite all the effort and trouble that pensioners have gone to, to obtain and send in their applications in the form required, there is still no news of a decision by the Zimbabwe Government about actually making payments.
Lobbying in Britain  
Disappointingly, our (OSPA) approaches to the Liberal Democratic Party, by letters from the Chairman to their Foreign Affairs Spokesman, Mr Ed Davey, MP, have received no response. We had asked that the party should recognize that in principle there is a moral obligation on the British government to give some practical recognition in the form positive financial support for the Zimbabwe Public Service pensioners, and that the party should take the opportunity to press the Government to act accordingly.

Menu From the Gremlin Drive In Restaurant (late 1960's)  
(courtesy of Eddy Norris ORAFS)
Back row: P/O. McLean; P/O. Rees.
Third Row: P/O. Dix; D/S/O. Dawson; C/Inspir.(T) Coetzer; P/O. Ferriera; B. De La Hunty; P/O. Wiggett.
Second Row: P/O. David; R. Robinson; P/O. Varkevisser; P/O. Readings; P/O. Mabin; P/O. Martin; P/O Matthews.
Front Row: I. Lendrum; Asst. Comm. K.N. Rawson; S. F. S. Bristow. C.L.M., P.C.D., Commissioner of Police; R. Stewart (Capt); Asst. Comm. P.J. Robinson (Chairman); Mr. P. S. Stranix; R. Thomas.

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Some familiar faces seen at our monthly gatherings at Timour Hall

Rob Traill

Gilly Potter, Martin Gee, Graham Jansen

Dave Acker

Rod Eterman

Deon Huysamen (House Manager of Timour Hall and Chairman of IPA Western Cape), and Steve McEvoy barman at Timour Hall.

Ralph McArthur & Locke Howie

Dave (Fluff) Hawkes

Brian Oberholister
Rhodesia - A Poem

by James Sturges (84)

Jacarandas, blue tinged trees,
Laughing children, all say please.
Smiling nannies loud and chatting,
Queens Club cricket, Rhodies batting.
Braais and picnics, Maleme Dam,
Tanganda tea and Colcom Ham.
Greeting friends to talk and talk,
Hillside Dams were safe to walk.
Snakes and mossies, flying ants,
Schoolboy rugby, winning chants.
Swimming parties, sleep-in nights,
Christmas Carols by candle light.
Honest Police, able and willing,
Downing’s rolls ten for a shilling.
Sunday car trips, Matopos caves,
OM’s and Busters Saturday raves.
Week-end outings to Vic Falls,
Dancing and Ballet in Curtain Calls.
Beautiful gardens, Centenary Park,
Window shopping just after dark.
Burger and Hot-dogs, Eskimo Ices,
Aromas from cafes of curry and spices.
Snow white tackies, Bata shoes,
Charity fetes, tombola and booze.
Clear blue skies or heavy rain,
Wish I could live it all over again.
Memories fade, so much to tell.
Oh Yes, Dear Rhodesia
I remember you well.

LADIES LUNCH

All members, wives, partners and guests will be made welcome at our annual 'Ladies Lunch'. Come on all you members – spoil your ladies and enjoy an excellent meal in comfortable surroundings and small gifts for the ladies. Limited numbers so book early through our Hon Secretary, Chairman, or Committee Member, Lockie Howie.

Date : Sunday 18th July, 2010
Time : 12.30 pm
Venue : Mowbray Golf Club
Cost : R100 per head
Ex Chairman – John Munro
“Photo recently extracted from a Kulula Flight Magazine”

Eternal farm boy John Munro and his wife Cheryl are the parents of one of the market’s founders, Cameron. John is happiest with a piece of droe wors or biltong in his hand, and loves the Saturday morning adventure of being entertained by the crowd at the market.

Saturday Morning Market - Old Biscuit Mill - Salt River

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**You know you're getting old when…**

- Your investment in health insurance is finally beginning to pay off.
- There's nothing left to learn the hard way.
- Happy Hour is a quick nap.
- You look forward to a dull evening.
- People phone at 9.00pm and ask “did I wake you”?
- Your children begin to look middle aged.
- Things you buy now won’t wear out.
- You turn out the light for economic reasons rather than romantic reasons.
- ‘Getting lucky’ means finding your car in the car park.
- Relatives & friends smile benignly rather than interrupt you as you retell a story for the 10th time.
- You keep repeating yourself.
- You keep repeating yourself.
- You keep repeating yourself.
A 1st grade school teacher had twenty-six students in her class. She presented each child in her classroom the first half of a well-known proverb and asked them to come up with the remainder of the proverb. It's hard to believe these were actually done by first graders. Their insight may surprise you. While reading, keep in mind that these are first-graders, 6-year-olds, because the last one is a classic!

1. Don't change horses
2. Strike while the
3. It's always darkest before
4. Never underestimate the power of
5. You can lead a horse to water but
6. Don't bite the hand that
7. No news is
8. A miss is as good as a
9. You can't teach an old dog new
10. If you lie down with dogs, you'll
11. Love all, trust
12. The pen is mightier than the
13. An idle mind is
14. Where there's smoke there's
15. Happy the bride who
16. A penny saved is
17. Two's company, three's
18. Don't put off till tomorrow what
19. Laugh and the whole world laughs with you, cry and
20. There are none so blind as
21. Children should be seen and not
22. If at first you don't succeed
23. You get out of something only what you
24. When the blind lead the blind
25. A bird in the hand

And the WINNER and last one!

26. Better late than

Until they stop running. 
bug is close. 
Daylight Saving Time. 
termites. 
How? 
looks dirty. 
impossible 
Mr. 
Math 
stink in the morning. 
Me. 
pigs. 
the best way to relax. 
pollution. 
gets all the presents. 
not much. 
the Musketeers. 
you put on to go to bed.

You have to blow your nose. 
Stevie Wonder. 
spanked or grounded. 
get new batteries. 
See in the picture on the box 
get out of the way. 
is going to poop on you.

Pregnant
Who can ever forget the beauty of the Eastern Highlands
(Pics courtesy of ORAFS)

The Vumba

Umtali Civic Centre

Troutbeck Inn

Loepard Rock Hotel

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WESTERN CAPE OUTPOST
“A contingent of 17 European and nine African BSA Policemen with 14 vehicles arrived in Salisbury today after a 30 hour drive from Nyasaland.

A force of 30 European and 50 African policemen remain on duty in Nyasaland.

In charge of the contingent was Supt. Eric van Stittert, who said that their journey, except for a three & half hour delay at the Zambezi car ferry at Tete, had been smooth and uneventful.

The journey started at 6.00 am yesterday, and stopped last night on the Rhodesian border before driving in to Salisbury in time for lunch.

Here they are lined up at Police Barracks, Salisbury.”

The Rhodesia Herald – June 1959
During November 2009, I drove down to South Africa for a shopping trip as I generally do at this time of year. Heading south from Mvuma (Umvuma) I came to what used to be Chilimanzi. Alas, Chilimanzi is no more! All that is left there now are two derelict houses. One was the house of the Member in Charge Police, which is on the right hand side of the main road when heading south. The other was the house of the Animal Health Inspector, which is on the left hand side of the main road. There is nothing else there to indicate that there was once a police station and a small administrative centre there. The police station and administrative centre has moved to Chatsworth.

As I drove through what used to be Chimimanzi, I go to thinking about my posting ex Depot to first Midlands Province and then to Fort Victoria in January 1955. Three members of Recruit Squad 6/54 were posted to Midlands Province, 5278 Andy Stirling, 5279 Gerry Moores and myself, 5281 Peter Bellingham. The three of us travelled by train overnight from Salisbury (Harare) to Gwelo (Gweru), and arrived in Gwelo at some ungodly hour as I remember. We met Propol Midlands, 3088 Col. Walker, (The father of General the Lord Walker who was Chief of the General Staff when he retired from the British Army) that morning. He told us that Andy was being posted to Enkledoorn (Chivhu), and that Gerry and I were being posted to Fort Victoria (Masvingo). Gerry and I left Gwelo by train that same morning en route to Fort Victoria, arriving there at 5.30pm that evening. This was without a doubt the slowest train journey of my life. We were met at Fort Victoria Station by 4899 Mike Walsh who greeted us with the words, “Welcome to the arsehole of the Empire”! I will never forget that greeting.

Gerry and I met Dispol, 3369 Major Harries, the following morning. Gerry was posted to Fort Victoria Urban where 4023 Sgt Joe Rowley was Member in Charge, and I was posted to Fort Victoria Rural where 4034 Sgt Jock Binnie was Member in Charge. The other members of the District Headquarters were the District Inspector, 3630 S/Insp Sandy McCall Smith, the District Clerk 4225 Ron Underwood and the Radio Operator 4670 Sgt Arnold Thorne (Mr. ZEF7). Fort Victoria in those days was a typical small Rhodesian town. It has grown considerably since 1955. The commonage area along the Salisbury Road where I used to go riding is now a residential area, as is the area along the Beitbridge Road. What used to be the rifle range is now also a residential area. It is possible to see where the butts of the old range used to be at the base of the kopje to the south of the houses, but only if you know where to look.

I have very many happy memories of Fort Victoria in the 1950s and my mind was full of nostalgic thoughts as I headed south for Beitbridge and South Africa. Getting back to Chilimanzi, which is what brought about this chain of thought, the Member in Charge Chilimanzi at that time was 4413 Dickie Cox, who now lives in Vancouver, Canada.
The Mashonaland Branch held a pre Christmas Braaivleis at the Mount Pleasant Sports Club on Saturday the 28th November 2009. Those attending were: 5568 Dennis Anderson; 5281 Peter Bellingham; 6384 Peter Birkett; 11997 Dennis Borra; 760 Rod Bowen; WP.275 Pam Cooper; 5608 Dave de Burgh-Thomas; 9348 Bill Edwards; 4728 Bill Ellway; 5917 Rod & Laura Finnigan; 7458 Mike Fox; 6262 Nigel Gabriel; 9491 Pat Hammond; 5118 Ian Hayes; (4234) Pat Hobley; (8235) Lyn Kay; 90402 Gerry Kolpien; 5927 Max & Judy Macdonald; 10115 Dave Mackintosh; 9406 Red O’Connell; (4086) Olive Osborne; 8477 Peter Quick; 9494 Malcolm Smith; 8746 Rick & Roz Summers; WP.134 Denise Woodiwiss; and (4130) Betty Wright.

Apologies were received from: 7615 “Tok” Arnold; P/R Pilot Jim Barker; 4795 Bob Burrell; 8263 Athol Estment; 8646 Andrew Field; (4049) Esme Jarvis; 5652 Bill Linfield; 6319 Chris Looker; 5949/6735 Tony Machan; 5877 John Mackinnon; 6377 Tony Maycock; 4829 Terry Oatt; (5387) Jane Phillips; 5162 Mike Robinson; 6007 Bob Schonken; 7014 Malcolm Smith; 6029 Jamie Tennant; 9210 John Van Zyl; 7437 John Woodward and 6783 Dave Young.

This was a most enjoyable “get-together”. The venue was great, the food was excellent, and a great spirit of camaraderie prevailed. The Branch arranged a first class raffle with a large selection of prizes and these were equitably distributed amongst those attending. All in all, it was a most enjoyable event. The Mashonaland Branch have instituted a monthly “get-together” on the second Friday of each month at the Mount Pleasant Sports Club from 5.00pm onwards. So far this is receiving good support from Harare residents, and a great feeling of camaraderie has been established by these evenings. The Branch is very grateful to the Mount Pleasant Sports Club for permitting us to use their premises. At the March 2010 “get-together” we had a visitor from the UK, 5507 Brian Taylor, who was out here on a routine visit. It was good to see him once again. (Brian and I were stationed together in Sinoia (Chinhoyi) in the early 60s. Ed)

MATABELELAND

Just a brief note to advise that the Matabeleland Branch of the Regimental Association held it's AGM on Saturday the 27th March 2010. The meeting was held at Buster's Sports Club, Bulawayo. A regrettably small attendance meant that either our members are blissfully happy with the present administration; or don't care much either way. Hopefully the former, in any event the current (diminished) Committee were re-elected en bloc.

They being:

Chairman: Tony Turner
Vice Chairman/Treasurer: Karl Hurry
Hon. Secretary: Denise Hurry
Almoner: Gill Parry
Member: Ken MacDonald
I have taken the liberty of enclosing our first Matabeleland Outpost (from last year). It is in pdf so you will need Adobe Acrobat to open it. Otherwise you may view it on our web page on the BSAP website.

COMMITTEE
It is just over twelve months ago that the Queensland Committee decided that it would convert from a formal Branch of the Regimental Association to an informal one and the offices of Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer and Editor would become the Administrator. A committee of one can be highly prized but, to ensure that I didn't get carried away with visions of Ocean Liner Cruises with our funds, I asked 6604 John Gold to remain as Social Secretary, to which he agreed.

COFFEE MORNINGS
John continues to arrange frequent coffee mornings for the retirees as well as other ex-Rhodesians; thank you John for that as well as the organisation of the Annual Dinner in September. Other members who regularly meet us when their social arrangements do not conflict are 6278 Gerry Dyer and 7432 Will Keys. A regular visitor is Goofy Lawrence, well known to my era as Rhodesia’s opening bowler in Cricket and 1962 Rhodesian Sportsman of the Year! (It will probably surprise him that I know of this accolade as he doesn't talk about it in his “whenwe” chats). He, of course, only played in the Salisbury League whereas I played under Basil Spurling in the Bulawayo League so never actually played against him, although, to digress, I remember one match where we played the MCC touring team and were allowed to win.

SECRETARY/TREASURER
7012 Mike King had been a long serving and loyal Secretary but decided to hang up his boots last year, which in fact was the catalyst to me for the decision to “go it alone”. Mike and his wife Ginny were honoured for their service at the Annual Dinner and I made arrangements to take over the finances. Having been helped by the Queensland Police Association in the past through the daughter of one of the better known members of the Force, John Restorick, my application to change signatures fell on bureaucratic ears, because she had left the organisation only a week before, and the mountain of documentation that was sent to me seemed unnecessarily difficult. Rather than make waves I have arranged with Mike that he obtains a new cheque book through the old system and all he will be required to do in the future is sign a cheque when needed. This less than onerous task will be accompanied by a suitable libation at the Dinner!
NEWS OF MEMBERS

Members’ reaction to the events of the past year has been both interesting and revealing.

I had the pleasure of meeting 5216 Eric Foulkes and his wife Julie, who journeyed for two days from Rubyvale, in the far North of Queensland, to meet family arriving from Germany, and expressed a wish to meet me and Rosemary. A very pleasant lunch was had with them and interestingly there is a vague chance that they might also be at the unveiling.

Encouraging messages from a number of you regarding the new composition of the Branch and the fact that I keep the news from the rest of the world circulating, so that each of our members, wherever he or she may be, is abreast of what is going on. These remarks make my efforts worthwhile.

Carol, wife of 6303 Peter Nortje, continues to lighten up my In-Box and she will be surprised to learn that that she has sent well over 3,000 to me to date!

7861 Mike Woods also sends me interesting emails on matters of public interest. Christine Lenz sends me news of her father 4016 Eric Jones from time to time who, like some of us, miss having the benefit of our Zimbabwe pensions. He can best be described, at fast approaching 84, as frail but alert but has moved in to live with his daughter so that she can keep an eye on him.

3835 John Stanyon passed away last year but he was over 90 and the send off by his friends and well-wishers was all the family could have wished for. The attitude of his son 8638 Douglas to members of the branch was unnecessary and his daughter Kay apologised on behalf of her brother.

Cobby Hollis, widow of 4731 Roy Hollis, my squad mate, remains fit and well but has moved to be nearer one of her daughters. She has recently been in touch with 4729 David (Dag) Grobecker who was invalided out of the Force in 1952 after being kicked in the spleen by a horse and returned to the UK. Haven’t seen or heard from him since until he approached the UK Branch to obtain details of Cobby as he and Roy had been good friends and Cobby had nursed him in the Hospital; may see him too at the Unveiling.

7432 Will and Jacqui Keys spent some time swanning around the world in different directions to meet up in America for a holiday. Will’s regular news by email kept me up to date with the exotic cities that he visited and the interesting people that he met. He has recently returned from a shorter visit to New Zealand.

6278 Gerry Dyer took his retirement from the Sun Corporation during the year and has become a regular part of the Coffee Club. He was due to take a short caravan holiday earlier this month to iron out any problems taking that type of holiday. He didn’t pick a particularly auspicious time as the days have been highlighted by the amount of rain that has fallen in Queensland. It will certainly have been a memorable learning curve!

5165 Don Silliss took the opportunity over the Memorial fundraising to recommend that we use the money held in our bank account to fund the Queensland contribution. It wasn’t necessary to go that route but we do not see
the need to keep this money on tap, particularly as the majority of it was raised by raffles at the various functions attended by members for the benevolent fund. There is insufficient money in it to warrant holding it or using it for benevolence therefore it will gradually be phased out by using it to pay for the wine for the toasts at the Annual Dinner for those members who contributed the money in the first place.

Debbie, widow of 8231 Tony Dawson, holder of the Australian Centenary Medal for her work in Community Centres, was able to travel to Lake Bled in Slovenia to be present at the wedding of her 31 year old son (young Tony) on 10 July to Rachael Scoffi an Australian Nurse of Italian heritage. They live in London.

7429 Fred Carr-Thompson and Carol report that things couldn't be going better for them in one of the most beautiful and friendly places at Malua Bay in New South Wales, where he has taken up kayaking on the multitude of crystal clear lakes and rivers in the area.

The following members have not been in touch with the branch for well over two years or no longer respond to emails and I am no longer in contact with them: 7445 Michael Bennett and Kathleen; 6864 Peter Bentley and Petisi; C782 Clinton Cain and Tania; Tim and Vivienne Craft (Army) George and Sofia Economous (Warden); 6128 Brian Jeoffreys and Margaret; 204738Q Merv Legg; 8324 David Naisbitt and Cynthia; 9950 Rob Nimmo and Deborah and 9440 Lindsay O'Brien and Sandra.

GENERAL
John Gold has agreed to continue supporting me for another year and both Gerry Dyer and Will Keys act as unwitting Committee Members so the Queensland Branch remains fairly healthy considering that its area is about twice the size of South Africa and Zimbabwe combined. Best wishes to one and all for a happy and successful 2010 and I look forward to renewing happy memories in July.

Mike Edden
The AGM was held at the Maritime Club, Port Elizabeth 12h00 on Saturday the 27 March. Those members remaining on the committee elected to continue for another year and Trevor Compton was elected unanimously to the vacant Chairman's post. The committee is now as follows:

Chairman: 5922 Trevor COMPTON
Hon/Secretary: 6966 Rob CLARKE
Treasurer: Associate Anne BASSON
Members: Associate Claire WILSON

The following members attended: PR James & Connie FISHER, Anne BASSON, 6570 Brian & Helena BURSTEIN, 6966 Rob CLARKE, 8710 William & Linda GODWIN, 6687 Alan DICKINSON, PR Rodger & Betty SLATER (Humansdorp), Claire WILSON, (5879) Shelagh STOW, 7890 Ed HOLLOWAY, (4982) Jill MACKENZIE, 4696 Tony DOWN (Port Alfred), 7777 Digby POCOCK (Port Alfred), 9023 Pat LEE (Port Alfred), 5922 Trevor & Pat COMPTON, 5624 Pat & Lyn FERGUSON, 9580 Peter & Lindsay KNOWLEDEN, C245 Dave & Margy WHINNEY and 6443 Basil & Jill BLATCH.

Apologies: 5144 Ray WEARE, (5225) Elaine CARSE, 5001 Jamie WHITELAW, PR Roger SOUTHGATE, PR Dave CARTWRIGHT, Mignonne GIBBINGS, 5907 Pete WILSON, 9332 Yorky GRIFFITHS, 6870 Dave LOW, WP 137/281 Doreen NOWELL and PR Herbie DU PLESSIS.

A special welcome was extended to 6125 Mike & Roxy HORNER from Tunbridge Wells, UK. Mike, a former chairman of the Eastern Cape Branch, had arrived the previous day for a short vacation visiting his sister Anne Basson. Pat LEE, also a visitor roped in by Tony DOWN at Port Alfred, said he was returning to Zimbabwe shortly. A point of interest with regard to his family history is that his grandfather was 841 Neil Housman WILSON who served from 1906 to 1910 taking his discharge to transfer to the Attorney General's office as a prosecutor.

A bring and braai followed the AGM and a good time was had by all those attending. Friendships were renewed and copious amounts of liquid refreshment were consumed. A late arrival, due to work commitments, was 8018 Alan GORDON. Funds were raised in a raffle of several items of memorabilia donated by the relatives of the late PR Aubrey INGRAM.

Regards
Rob Clarke.
Roll of Honour


4250 Ian Andrew Dixon died as a result of a heart attack on the 28th March, 2010, in Durban. Ian served in the Force from May, 1948 to January, 1954, and left as a Det Sgt. He was not a member of the Association.

PR 13385 Gerald Spanton died on the 26th April, 2010, in Johannesburg. He was a well known member of the Cape Branch of the Association.

4307 Timothy James 'Jimmy' Collins died on the 26th April, 2010, in Pietermaritzburg. Jimmy served from July, 1948 to September, 1978. Jimmy retired as Assistant Commissioner when he was Officer Commanding BSAP Support Unit. In 1975 he was awarded the PMM medal. He was a keen sportsman and played cricket and soccer for the Force. He was also a member of the Natal Midlands Branch of the Association.

Mike Leask, a well known member of Field Reserve and PATU who served in the Que Que District in the 70's and 80's, passed away on the 29th April, 2010, in Que Que, Zimbabwe.

3921 William Anderson 'Bill' Earle passed away on the 1st May, 2010, in Cirencester, U.K. Bill served in the Force between March, 1946 and December, 1966, retiring with the rank of Staff Inspector. In 1964 he was awarded the CPLSM. He spent most of his career involved with police equestrian duties. After retirement he lived in Cape Town where was a member, and served as Chairman of the Western Cape Association.
Roll of Honour continued...

7530 Norman Nimmo was tragically killed in a motor accident near White River in Mpumalanga on the 3rd May, 2010. Norman served in the Force from February, 1966 to September, 1978, and left as an Inspector. Norman was well known for his tireless work in assisting old age pensioners in Zimbabwe.

4642 David Ranleigh Hounsfield died as a result of cancer on 7th May, 2010, in Port Elizabeth. David served from July, 1950 to August, 1962, and left as a Staff Sgt. He was not a member of the Association.

10317 Michael (Mike) William Taylor passed away on 26th May, 2010, in Edenvale, Johannesburg, as a result of cancer. Mike served from January, 1978, until January, 1981, and left as a Patrol Officer. Mike's leaves his widow, and also an ex member, WP412 Sue (nee Brown).

8165/8856 Stephen Geoffrey (Geoff) Lloyd passed away on the 1st June, 2010, in Johannesburg. Geoff was a long time member of Dog Section and his last posting was Depot Hard Square. He served from January, 1969 to January 1972, and left as a P/O.

6468 David Callow passed away on the 2nd June, 2010, at the hospice in Port Shepstone. Dave served in the Force from August, 1961 to May, 1982, and retired as a Chief Insp in Support Unit. In recent years he was very involved in the BSAP Association, Margate, Natal.
THE BSA POLICE REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION
The Association web page http://www.bsap.org is well worth a visit.
Contact details of Association Branches worldwide appear hereunder:

AUSTRALIA

Perth       John Seward       olivos@primus.com.au
Queensland  Mike Edden       michealedden@hotmail.com

NEW ZEALAND  Greg McManus     mcm anus@iconz.co.nz

SOUTH AFRICA

Border       Bruce Beukman     sunshine101@telkomsa.net
Eastern Cape Nobby Clarke     ropac@talkomsa.net
Natal        Des Howse        dlh@saol.co.za
Natal Midlands Alan Bennett    flick.bennett@vodamail.co.za
Transvaal    Dick Glanville   dick@telkomsa.net

UK            Barry Henson     bsapuk@aol.com
              Mike Abbotts      micheal.abbotts1@btinternet.com

USA            Will Cornell     bsapusa@aol.com

ZIMBABWE

Central      Peter Bellingham  pbellingham@mango.zw
Webmaster    Andrew Field     andrew@field.co.zw
Mashonaland  Red O’Connell   roc@zol.co.zw
Matabeleland Denise Hurry    karden@mweb.co.zw
Manicaland   A. Hitchman      safemut@syscom.co.zw

The opinions expressed in the Outpost of the Western Cape are not necessarily those of the Members of the Association.

An electronic version of this edition is available in PDF format from the editor.

WESTERN CAPE OUTPOST