## 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

**STANDARD BANK CLAREMONT (025109). A/C 072613580**

### COMMITTEE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Email</th>
<th>Phone 1</th>
<th>Phone 2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chairman</td>
<td>Jim BLAIN</td>
<td><a href="mailto:mwjblain@mweb.co.za">mwjblain@mweb.co.za</a></td>
<td>021 447 6572</td>
<td>021 930 8166</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>082 394 9908</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secretary</td>
<td>Neville SPURR</td>
<td><a href="mailto:nevillespurrr404@gmail.com">nevillespurrr404@gmail.com</a></td>
<td>021 782 0339</td>
<td>082 456 1240</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Treasurer</td>
<td>Ed IONS</td>
<td><a href="mailto:bsapwestcape@gmail.com">bsapwestcape@gmail.com</a></td>
<td>021 762 9226</td>
<td>021 797 3344</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assistant Treasurer</td>
<td>Wendy MEYER</td>
<td><a href="mailto:donach@xsinet.co.za">donach@xsinet.co.za</a></td>
<td>021 591 6553</td>
<td>082 430 8595</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outpost Editor</td>
<td>Lawrie MABIN</td>
<td><a href="mailto:admin@zipprint.co.za">admin@zipprint.co.za</a></td>
<td>021 782 5910</td>
<td>083 635 1337</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Member</td>
<td>Tony ROZEMEYER</td>
<td><a href="mailto:hazel.rozemeyer@gmail.com">hazel.rozemeyer@gmail.com</a></td>
<td>021 788 7274</td>
<td>084 674 0700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Member</td>
<td>Lockie HOWIE</td>
<td><a href="mailto:lockiehowie@yahoo.co.uk">lockiehowie@yahoo.co.uk</a></td>
<td>021 557 5830</td>
<td>021 510 1060</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>082 564 5197</td>
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<tr>
<td>Member</td>
<td>Dave RILEY</td>
<td></td>
<td>021 856 1858</td>
<td></td>
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*Cover picture – Mounted Escort (the last as we knew them) to H R H The Prince of Wales during Independence ceremonies, April, 1980, accompanied by Commissioner PK Allum and Officer unidentified. (can anyone assist)*

WESTERN CAPE OUTPOST
It is always encouraging to receive suggestions from members of the Association as to how they feel the function and operation of the Committee can be improved. This demonstrates that some members are interested in the affairs of the Association and the importance to them of its successful administration.

One member recently submitted a number of ideas all of which are worthy of serious consideration and will be given the appropriate attention by the Committee. One suggestion he put forward is very topical as it relates to the Annual General Meeting and the election and term of office of the Office Bearers of the Committee. The suggestion is that Committee members stand for a three year period only and then step down. A worthy consideration no doubt prompted by the thought that new Committee members would bring new ideas, a new energy and stimulate renewed interest in the Association.

If only that were true - how marvellous that would be. However the truth of the matter is that each and every year at the AGM there are usually no volunteers, no one stepping forward to join the Committee. In the past we were fortunate to have stalwarts such as Doug Grierson as Chairman and Gilly Potter as Secretary/Treasurer occupy their positions for many years. As both were doing a sterling job and were willing to continue there was no need for a change. Continuity also has its advantages.

Two years ago when John Munro stepped down as Chairman, we were faced with the situation whereby we had to form a Committee without a Chairman as no one was willing to take on the task. A member of the Committee later agreed to accept the position albeit for the duration of that year. This emphasises the fact that there are so few of our members who are willing to take on these often thankless roles.

We should however take consolation in the knowledge that we are not alone with this phenomenon. Many of the other Branches suffer the same malady – it is the same willing horses that pull the cart each year. How nice it would be for us to be able to rotate the Committee after a three year tour of duty as suggested.

With the 2011 Annual General Meeting just around the corner (7 March) it would be very encouraging to see other members of the Association putting up their hand and offering to occupy a position on the Committee for a few years. Let's see if we can make it happen.

Jim Blain
Hi Lawrie,
Hope you are personally well.
A note to all the guys and their comaradary, thanking them for their moral support through my accident recovery since April.
I am still not yet back on my feet, having had several more operations on my heel to remove some ‘rejected’ Surgical Steel screws.
I am glad the 80mm screw has been removed. It is 7mm diameter across the threads!
Dave Blacker can add this ‘screw’ to his collection!
No, I will never ‘reject’ motorcycles. The AH's who never put up warning chevrons or lights at Road excavation sites at night, are criminal.
Best wishes,
Stewart Woodcock 8265

Hi Lawrie,
I refer to the article written by June Coutts in the last edition of the Outpost. How true her words. However what she does not mention is that Sandy was awarded the Colonial Police Medal for Gallantry (See attached I hope you can read it.) I understand Sandy is not in good health and I am sure the Association will wish him a speedy recovery.
Doug G

Hi Howard....
You knew me then as Brenda Pidduck (WPO 101). Changed my name officially many years ago...as you may know. Hope this year will be a great one for you and your family!! I live in Penzance, Cornwall. Have quite frequent contact with Dave Kennedy.
Great to get your news.....please will you say "hi" for me to anybody you know from BSAP days who may remember me. I remember Doug Grierson! Spoke once with Ray (Mac????) Can’t remember his surname right now). Tried to make contact with Ian Donaldson...who I was told lives in the Cape....caught up with Grahame Griffiths and his wife, Gail....at Royal St. Andrews Lodge in Port Alfred....lovely hotel and B&B which I think they own. Hope you are having a great life there!!
Cheers.
Sherri

Hi Lawrie,
I was in Port Alfred two weekends ago for a Rhodes University Reunion of students who had been there between 1965 and 1975 and attach a photo of 4 ex-BSAP men for the Outpost.
The photo (number IMG 1370) shows, from left to right, Butch Wiggett, Rob MacLean, Tony Granger, Nevin Weakley and Ant Sherren. In particular, Butch and Tony send their best regards to you and all to those who might remember them. It was a fantastic reunion and terrific to catch up with these fellows. Butch is still teaching a Dale College, where he has been since he graduated from Rhodes in 1982, Tony was on his way to Australia to compete in a Veterans rugby tournament - he lives in Shrewsbury in the U.K. - Nevin was out visiting and on business - he lives not far from Tony and Ant runs a very up-market guest house bin Port Alfred called ‘Carnoustie Guest Lodge’ - and yes, it is alongside the boundary of the Royal Port Alfred Golf Course!

Cheers,
Rob.

Neville
Not sure whether my tongue is hanging out or whether I am smiling or drooling but as vanity is not a sin I am guilty of, thank you for the photo.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Chairman and committee members for a very enjoyable evening. Great weather, good company, fantastic food and plenty to drink. An evening second to none anywhere in the world.

Kind Regards
Bob
One of our staunch members of the BSAP Association in the Western Cape
7975 Nigel Harris

Then

Now

Bulawayo Traffic Chief Retires
Mid-August also saw the retirement of C/Insp. Nigel Harris, for the past two years Member-in-Charge of Bulawayo’s Traffic Section.
Nigel was born in Trinidad and educated in England.
After National Service with REME, he worked on a drilling rig off the Yorkshire coast - a surprising indication of how long drilling operations have been going on in the North Sea.

Nigel joined the force in March 1954 and his first posting was to Filabusi where Sergeant Bill Callow (now Sen. Asst Comm. Callow) was in charge. A transfer to Wankie in 1955 took Nigel under the wing of the present Commissioner and two years later a posting to Matobo including riding up to Rhodes’ Grave on Sunday mornings to show the flag.
Nigel returned to Bulawayo in 1962 after spells at APTS (Tomlinson Depot) and Mashonaland Highway Patrol.

We wish him, wife Jacqueline and daughters Holly and Carol all success and happiness in the future.

Remember the song
“If you come by the woods tonight you’re in for a big surprise…….”
Well, if you come by Timour Hall at 5.30 pm on the first Monday of every month you will not be surprised to see 7945 Brian Oberholster – sitting on the same stool in same place in the pub. He never misses our monthly gatherings.
PERTH - An SAS trooper collecting toys for children was stabbed when he helped stop a suspected shoplifter in east Perth.

The 'Toys-R-Us' Store Manager told 'The West Australian' that a man was seen on surveillance cameras last Friday putting a laptop under his jacket at the store.

When confronted, the man became irate, knocked down an employee, pulled a knife and ran toward the door.

Outside were four SAS Troopers collecting toys for the "Toys For Tots" program.

The store Manager said the Troopers stopped the man, but he stabbed one of them, in the back with 10" carving knife. Fortunately, the cut did not appear to be severe and required only a band aid.

The suspect was transported by ambulance to the Royal Perth Hospital with two broken arms, a broken leg, possible broken ribs, multiple contusions and assorted lacerations including a broken nose and jaw...

Injuries he apparently sustained when he tripped whilst trying to run after the stabbing.

THE CLUMSY BASTARD !!!

*Courtesy of ORAFS*

STUART BASS (6558)

PETER LOGUE (6869)

SUPER MEAT MARKET

MAIN ROAD  *  KENILWORTH

DELIVERIES : RONDEBOSCH  *  BERGVLIET

PHONE : 021 797 5595

WESTERN CAPE OUTPOST
The tranquil setting of Timour Hall in Plumstead was once again the venue for our Christmas Spit Braai and Raffle held on Monday 6th December. Despite the “Don’t Drink and Drive” campaign being launched just a few days before, our spirits were not dampened as approximately 70 members, wives and guests came along to support the function. Thanks to you all.

Chris Piggot and his team provided a superb meal consisting of lamb, roast potatoes and a selection of salads. The meal was rounded off with a delicious pudding.

Ed Ions, Dave Riley and Chris North (Chris visiting from the UK – we make our visitors work for their dinner) did an excellent job selling raffle tickets and managed to coax the gathering to give generously and part with R1960. Dave Riley, with his inimitable style was able to keep everyone interested in the proceedings as he conducted the draw. There were 27 prizes up for grabs and a couple of winners managed to walk away with two each. Derek Bothwell had the biggest smile on his face as he scooped four prizes. Well done Derek!!

A big thank you to all those who donated prizes for the raffle and to the Committee for organising the evening. (A Nett profit of R2360 was made at the function)
An expedition of some note was recently undertaken by an ex BSAP man and member of the Natal Branch of the Association, (8980) Duncan “Porky” Paul. As far as I can ascertain Duncan is the only ex member of the BSAP who has achieved this accolade.

Starting on the 22nd November, 2010 and lasting three weeks, accompanied by three friends from Saudi Arabia, an English Doctor and cameraman, Sean Wisedale, they flew in to the Arctic Interior, landing on a blue ice runway. At their Base Camp, Union Glacier, they remained for four days for orientation and acclimatization. They then flew on to a polar plateau situated at 89° South. Their goal was the South Pole at 90°.

The expedition involved 111 km of cross country skiing to the South Pole at an altitude of 3,250m. Due to the dynamics of the rotation of the earth and density of the cold air, the altitude was equivalent of 4000m.

Skiing at an average of nine hours (2.5 km) per day, it took ten days to reach the South Pole. The temperature averaged between -32°C and -50°C. Midway through their trip they were hit by some really bad weather with ‘white out’ conditions and winds of up to 80m/ph. These conditions set them back two days, during which they were tent bound. The toughest part of the expedition was the last two days push towards the South Pole with a 50m/ph cross wind and temperatures dropping to -50°C.

Duncan reports: “The interior of the Antarctica is the most beautiful, pristine place that you can ever imagine.
Everything is white and silent. There is no wildlife, no landscape, it is flat remote cold and bleak. To me it felt like a surreal out-of-body experience. Our clothes, gloves and headgear saved us from frost bite, sun burn and snow blindness. Without modern equipment this type of expedition would be very very difficult. Our team continually praised and saluted those early explorers who ventured in to this, the most extreme wilderness in the world.”

Duncan has never been far away from danger and extreme adventure. In September, 1976, he was awarded the Police Medal For Gallantry for his part in the Zambezi River ambush near Kanyemba, where DPO Mike Sullivan was killed. He is about to climb Kilimanjaro for the third time. In 1999 he was part of an expedition who climbed Mt Meru (32 000 ft) in the Himalayas. In July 2007, he took part in the longest canoe marathon in the world – on the Yukon River, Canada, a 742 km paddle which took two & half days. The first South African to finish the race. He has completed 12 Dusi River Marathons. Whew! This man just doesn’t know when to stop - Well done Duncan........ Ed

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Contact
Lawrie Mabin (8151)
Cell : 083 635 1337

14 Kommetjie Road, Fish Hoek 7975
Tel : (021) 782-5910
Fax : (021) 782-6223
E-Mail : admin@zipprint.co.za

Also at Wynberg

WESTERN CAPE OUTPOST
The improved National Health Insurance
The South African Medical doctors have weighed in on the new health care proposals. The Allergists are scratching their heads, but the Dermatologists advised not to make any rash moves. The Gastroenterologists had a sort of a gut feeling about it, but the Neurologists thought the government had a lot of nerve. The Obstetricians felt they were all labouring under a misconception. Ophthalmologists considered the idea short-sighted. Pathologists yelled, "Over my dead body!" while the Paediatricians said, "Oh, Grow up!" The Psychiatrists thought the whole idea was madness, while the Radiologists could see right through it.
Surgeons decided to wash their hands of the whole thing. The ENT specialists wouldn’t hear of it. The Internists thought it was a bitter pill to swallow, and the Plastic Surgeons said, "This puts a whole new face on the matter...." The Podiatrists thought it was a step forward, but the Urologists were pissed off at the whole idea.
In the end, the Proctologists won out, leaving the entire decision up to the assholes in Pretoria!!

New version of the Three Bears
A far more accurate account of the events of that fateful morning....

Baby bear goes downstairs, sits in his small chair at the table.
He looks into his small bowl. It is empty. ‘Who's been eating my porridge?’ he squeaks.

Daddy Bear arrives at the big table and sits in his big chair. He looks into his big bowl and it is also empty. 'Who's been eating my porridge?!?' he roars.

Mummy Bear puts her head through the serving hatch from the kitchen and yells, 'For goodness sake, how many times do I have to go through this with you idiots? It was Mummy Bear who got up first. It was Mummy Bear who woke everyone in the house. It was Mummy Bear who made the coffee. It was Mummy Bear who unloaded the dishwasher from last night and put everything away. It was Mummy Bear who swept the floor in the kitchen. It was Mummy Bear who went out in the cold early morning air to fetch the newspaper and croissants. It was Mummy Bear who set the damn table.

'It was Mummy Bear who walked the bladdy dog, cleaned the cat’s litter tray, gave them their food, and refilled their water.

'And now that you've decided to drag your sorry bear-arsed down stairs and grace Mummy Bear with your grumpy presence, listen carefully, because I'm only going to say this once....

'I HAVEN'T MADE THE FRIGGING PORRIDGE YET!!
Prior to sentencing, the Judge asked the defendant, Richard Reid, if he had anything to say. His response: After admitting his guilt to the court for the record, Reid also admitted his ‘allegiance to Osama bin Laden, to Islam, and to the religion of Allah,’ defiantly stating, “I think I will not apologize for my actions” and told the court ‘I am at war with your country’

Judge Young then delivered the statement quoted below:

Judge Young:

‘Mr. Richard C. Reid, hearken now to the sentence the Court imposes upon you.

On counts 1, 5 and 6 the Court sentences you to life in prison in the custody of the United States Attorney General. On counts 2, 3, 4 and 7, the Court sentences you to 20 years in prison on each count, the sentence on each count to run consecutively. (That’s 80 years.)

On count 8 the Court sentences you to the mandatory 30 years again, to be served consecutively to the 80 years just imposed. The Court imposes upon you for each of the eight counts a fine of $250,000 that’s an aggregate fine of $2 million. The Court accepts the government’s recommendation with respect to restitution and orders restitution in the amount of $298.17 to Andre Bousquet and $5,784 to American Airlines.

The Court imposes upon you an $800 special assessment.

The Court imposes upon you five years supervised release simply because the law requires it. But the life sentences are real life sentences so I need go no further.

This is the sentence that is provided for by our statutes. It is a fair and just sentence. It is a righteous sentence.

Now, let me explain this to you. We are not afraid of you or any of your terrorist co-conspirators, Mr. Reid. We are Americans. We have been through the fire before. There is too much war talk here and I say that to everyone with the utmost respect. Here in this court, we deal with individuals as individuals and care for individuals as individuals. As human beings, we reach out for justice.

You are not an enemy combatant. You are a terrorist. You are not a soldier in any war. You are a terrorist. To give you that reference, to call you a soldier, gives you far too much stature. Whether the officers of government do it or your attorney does it, or if
you think you are a soldier. You are not---- you are a terrorist. And we do not negotiate with terrorists. We do not meet with terrorists. We do not sign documents with terrorists. We hunt them down one by one and bring them to justice.

So war talk is way out of line in this court. You are a big fellow. But you are not that big. You're no warrior. I've known warriors. You are a terrorist---a species of criminal that is guilty of multiple attempted murders. In a very real sense, State Trooper Santiago had it right when you first were taken off that plane and into custody and you wondered where the press and the TV crews were, and he said: 'You're no big deal.'

You are no big deal.

What your able counsel and what the equally able United States attorneys have grappled with and what I have, as honestly as I know how, tried to grapple with is why you did something so horrific. What was it that led you here to this courtroom today?

I have listened respectfully to what you have to say. And I ask you to search your heart and ask yourself what sort of unfathomable hate led you to do what you are guilty and admit you are guilty of doing? And, I have an answer for you. It may not satisfy you, but as I search this entire record, it comes as close to understanding as I know.

It seems to me you hate the one thing that to us is most precious. You hate our freedom. Our individual freedom. Our individual freedom to live as we choose, to come and go as we choose, to believe or not believe as we individually choose. Here, in this society, the very wind carries freedom. It carries it everywhere from sea to shining sea. It is because we prize individual freedom so much that you are here in this beautiful courtroom. So that everyone can see, truly see, that justice is administered fairly, individually, and discreetly. It is for freedom's sake that your lawyers are striving so vigorously on your behalf, have filed appeals, will go on in their representation of you before other judges.

We Americans are all about freedom. Because we all know that the way we treat you, Mr. Reid, is the measure of our own liberties. Make no mistake though. It is yet true that we will bear any burden; pay any price, to preserve our freedoms. Look around this courtroom. Mark it well. The world is not going to long remember what you or I say here. The day after tomorrow, it will be forgotten, but this, however, will long endure.

Here in this courtroom and courtrooms all across America, the American people will gather to see that justice, individual justice, justice, not war, individual justice is in fact being done. The very President of the United States through his officers will have to come into courtrooms and lay out evidence on which specific matters can be judged and juries of citizens will gather to sit and judge that evidence democratically, to mold and shape and refine our sense of justice.

See that flag, Mr. Reid? That's the flag of the United States of America That flag will fly there long after this is all forgotten. That flag stands for freedom. And it always will.

Mr. Custody Officer. Stand him down!
Babies and the dead on voters roll

As Zimbabwe prepares for a general election later this year, the country’s shambolic voters’ roll contains dozens of names of people born in 1897, thousands of children under 18 years of age and babies born in 2007. According to two audits of the March 2008 voters’ roll, one by an independent analyst and another by the Zimbabwe Election Support Network (Zesn), the roll also contains thousands of ghost voters.

Prime Minister Morgan Tsvangirai’s MDC has, since 2000, accused Zanu PF and the Registrar-General’s office of using the chaotic voters’ roll to rig elections in favour of President Robert Mugabe and his former ruling party.

The independent analyst’s audit revealed that there were 26,475 people aged 100 years and above, of which 17,475 were 107 years old.

It also showed that there were 5,600 children below 18 years old, who included babies born between 2005 and 2007, on the roll.

If Zimbabwe is to go by the 2008 voters’ roll, then it probably deserves to be included in the Guinness Book of Records as having the highest number of elderly people aged 107 years and over. According to the online encyclopedia Wikipedia, the oldest person in the world is believed to be 114-year-old Eunice Sanborn of America, who was born on July 20, 1896.

The Zesn analysis shows that nine born between 1890 and 1899, aged between 111 and 120 years in 2008, were also on the voters’ roll.

Looking Back and Looking Forward

By Eddie Cross, MP

I think everyone in Zimbabwe will agree that 2010 has been a very tough year for all of us. Money has been tight, business conditions very difficult and the political scene has never been so complex or confused. Despite this it is essential to look back on the year and to try and ascertain if we made progress and if so in which direction? No point in doing that if you do not look forward at the same time and try to see what lies in store for us in 2011.

Firstly the economy; nothing works if you get the economics wrong. Although our basic economic recovery has been slow, an astonishing feature has been how the informal sector has come out from the closet and economic activities that were going on suddenly materialized from nowhere. All the pundits reported growth rates of about 7 per cent, but when the IMF came to measure economic activity they were astonished to find us approaching a GDP of $8 billion compared to $4.2 billion in 2008. That suggests growth of 40 per cent or more in 2010.

When all of this is said and done, Zimbabwe will be a fascinating study for future generations of economists who will be able to analyze how we managed to wreck an economy that had survived 15 years of sanctions and 18 years of war in just 10 years after the international community had lent us $6 billion in soft loans and given us $5 billion in grant aid in the previous 20 years.
This will show how we, in the face of the targets set for 2015 managed to reduce national incomes by 70 per cent, raise all social indices to the level where we were clearly a society in crisis and drive a third of our population out of the country as destitute refugees and another quarter to an early death from a myriad of causes. How we broke an education system that had given us the highest literacy rate in Africa so badly that in the last few years two thirds of all girl children were not in school at all and those that were, came out illiterate and innumerate. How we wrecked an advanced health system that had doubled life expectancy in 30 years and succeeded in wiping out all those gains in a short decade.

It will also be a study in human perseverance and grit as people whose lives were being destroyed struggled to stay alive and keep business afloat. The new estimates of GDP are not fiction, the Ministry of Finance is collecting $250 million a month – divide that by our traditional estimate of tax from GDP of 30 per cent and you get a GDP of $10 billion. This huge leap in real GDP is not due to recovery or new investment, it’s simply Zimbabweans coming out of their fox holes in no-mans land after the cease fire and starting to go about their lives again. It’s the product of the determined free market strategies of the new government and the abolition of all controls over economic activity and exchange control. The use of the dollar as the main means of exchange has helped. So have remittances and the persistent role of the Fishmonger Group who continue to make resources available for key needs. Politically, we have gone backwards. There has been no major reform in 2010, no major move towards the rule of law and respect for basic human and political rights. The partners in the GPA have been unable to agree on just about anything, resulting in stalemate and confusion. Who is in charge? Really in charge? No one can tell you and every day brings contradictions. Just take the past fortnight for example. On Monday the three principals failed to meet. On Tuesday the Cabinet met and made substantive decisions regarding the implementation of the outstanding issues in the GPA, on Thursday Mr Mugabe stood up at the Zanu PF Conference and slammed the major western powers and threatened to nationalize all British and American companies. He ranted against the GPA saying it had run its course and he wants out. Let’s finish this thing and go to an early election. Then on the Monday following, he meets with the other principals and they hold a joint press conference where Mr Mugabe praises the GPA and says that elections will follow the full implementation of the reforms in the GPA – confused? You should be.

In a sense we are still frozen just where we were after the GPA was signed in Harare in front of African leaders in September 2008. We are no nearer getting the essential conditions in place for a free and fair election and no fundamental changes have taken place except for the forced macro economic reforms that followed the absolute collapse in 2008. We have played about the edges – but nothing substantive since then. In fact much of the progress has been stultified by the rapacious activities of a minority of powerful figures in the administration and Zanu PF who insist on pursuing their activities even if it paralyses investment and economic recovery. But it has not been altogether negative, Zanu PF, which has had the power field to itself for 30 years, has been forced to share power in a Cabinet where they are in a minority and in a Parliament where they cannot force a vote. They have also discovered that at last Africa has a voice and that African leadership is standing up to its bullies and tyrants and saying enough, behave
yourself. Events in the Ivory Coast substantiate this shift as does to new consensus evident in the SADC Leadership on issues affecting Zimbabwe. While progress seems slow and inconsistent, Mr Mugabe and his more radical colleagues are discovering that there are limits to the patience of other African leaders. He was the only Head of State in Africa to congratulate the outgoing President of the Ivory Coast for his “victory”. In recent meetings, the President of South Africa has made it abundantly clear that Africa supports the GPA and wants it implemented and then an election that will pass muster in the international community. That is a death knell to Zanu and they simply do not know what to do about it. It is this that will determine what 2011 will hold for those of us who call Zimbabwe home and want to see it back on its feet and playing its rightful role in the community of nations. In the meantime, it’s a slow walk back to sanity from the insanity of the front line and those nasty little foxholes we used to survive the battle in 2008.

Eddie Cross
Bulawayo
29 December 2010

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**Dates To Diarise**

**Annual Ladies Lunch** – Sunday 17th July, 2011. Venue to be finalized.

**Every first Monday of the Month** – informal gathering of members and their guests at Timour Hall, Plumstead, Cape Town. From 5.00 pm onwards. Visitors welcome.

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**THE DVD**

‘The BSAP Memorial’

Our Secretary, Neville Spurr, has a limited number if DVD’s kindly donated by the UK Branch, featuring ‘The Last Parade’ and Memorial Service. An excellent production and well worth seeing.

In a covering note from Alan Toms he says “The organizing committee also felt that if members could see what was being done on their behalf they might wish to donate to the Memorial Fund and thereby enable them to feel that they had, even in some small way, contributed to ensuring that a fitting end and a permanent memorial to the “finest Police Force in the world” and their service in it was properly recognised and commemorated.”

**For Sale – R20.00 each.**
For those of us who used to enjoy fishing in the Mazoe River near Nyamapanda, look what you were missing. This crocodile was shot because of its over indulgence in human consumption.

Riot Squad

Our Hon Secretary

Sorry Neville, I came accross this this old photo and couldn’t ignore putting it in. I couldn’t makeup my mind whether you looked like Winston Churchhill, Humpty Dumpty or ‘Hardy’ from Laurel & Hardy.

..... Ed

STUART BASS (6558)  
PETER LOGUE (6869)

SUPER MEAT MARKET

MAIN ROAD  *  KENILWORTH

DELIVERIES : RONDEBOSCH  *  BERGVLIET

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Kezi and Elephants
by Andrew Stevens (6226)

In 1961, I passed out of the depot and was posted to Kezi. Its area extended from the famous Matopos to the Shashi River on the border of Bechuanaland (Botswana).

I was met by Alec Fraser whom I was to replace after a few days. The Member In Charge was Insp.Ted Mallon, assisted by Sergeant Nigel Harris, and the other trooper was Derek Marshall. Doug Baird with his funny little pick-up acted as Member i/c in Ted's absence. As Nigel informed me, Doug often used his pick-up to save mileage on the station Landrover for mileage was tightly controlled.

The District Commissioner and Magistrate, Noel Robertson lived up the road at Matopos, where Dick Evans was stationed.

There were two horses at Kezi and I soon discovered that much of my time would be spent on horseback, patrolling the area down to the Shashi and occasionally up to the Matopos boundary.

On my Shashi patrol I would pass Sidube and Dube Cattle ranches of Francis Farewell Roberts. On one occasion when visiting the farm, I was tentatively offered a job if of interest, but I declined, preferring police life.
A scotch cart pulled by four donkeys carried my equipment on these patrols.

The area was wild and at night I tethered my horse securely surrounded by the donkeys. This, I hoped would keep the horse calm in case of a lion attack or, at worst, the lions would get a donkey first – at least this was the theory. My .303 which I used shooting for the pot, never left my side at night. I always kept one ear open for the snap of a riempie* as the lions’ chorus began.

Elephants regularly passed our camp on the way to the river where we would watch these magnificent creatures drink and play. They never troubled us, and we respected them.

On one patrol, I had no sooner settled down to normal police work which included the occasional foray into Bechuanaland, when I received a ZEF message on my portable Dolphin radio, summoning me back to the station, a hard, two days’ ride away.

Cursing my bad luck I set off and reached the station, exhausted, only to be ordered to ready myself immediately, take a fresh horse and head for the Matopos, another good day’s ride. An alert had gone out that a notorious felon had escaped from prison and apparently, despite heavy leg-irons had reached the Matopos.

Tents and gear had been dropped at the Ovi River in the foothills of the Matopos where I made camp and met up with two members of the dog section, one of whom was Ginger Garland. The next day I headed for the hills fully expecting to capture the escaped prisoner. Instead, I narrowly escaped a deadly python swinging from a tree above and never found our man despite thorough patrols of the Matopos Hills. I heard later that
the gangster had gone to ground to re-appear weeks later in the Plumtree area.

In the BSAP we had a good Field Reserve system and air-wing and held regular training sessions with the Reservists. Generally we played games of a sort where mostly the regulars would pose as insurgents and the reservists would be tasked to track us down. It was during one of these manoeuvres that I had as a companion Constable Makabeni. He was a big man and very strong. Let me give you some idea of his strength. One day, on patrol, we were motoring along a path on our Matchless scrambler to visit a Chinese-owned store when a fence suddenly blocked the road. I was ready to give up, but not Makabeni. He simply picked up the motorbike, whilst I pushed down the fence as much as I could, and he literally put it down on the other side.

But back to the Field Reserve Manoeuvres. We were, as expected, ambushed by some Reservists, amongst them a local farmer by the name of Nieuwoudt. As he pounced on me, it became obvious that he had taken the exercise beyond the bounds of practice. The next thing I remember was rolling on the ground where I found him on top of me, pinning me down. Although not a big man he was powerful, probably due to hard farming. I considered my options and decided to shout for Makabeni’s help who by this time had handcuffed another reservist to the jeep. “Makabeni help me get this guy off,” I shouted. Makabeni strode over to where we were, bent down, picked up Nieuwoudt with his huge hands, tossed the struggling man over his shoulder holding him there with one arm, marched over to the jeep, put him down unceremoniously, and handcuffed him to jeep’s rail. Well, I shall always remember the look of disbelief on Nieuwoud’s face.

One of my more interesting cases involved an infanticide. We had received some information about this from a nearby village. I was dispatched with an African constable to investigate. The young woman’s husband was away working on the mines in Johannesburg, yet she had fallen pregnant in his absence and kept the pregnancy secret. After talking to the accused, Piwe, for a while, she confessed that she had given birth and agreed to show us the spot. It transpired that she had suffocated two newly born infants and buried them in an anthill. We dug this up and found the two tiny bodies which were later examined by our Government Medical Officer, Doctor Parirenyetwa. He was an unpleasant man with deep political leanings who seized on the opportunity to discredit my medical knowledge when asked to spell a medical term.

It was rumoured that he would invite his drunken friends into the theatre when performing an operation although this was never investigat-
ed thoroughly. I heard later that he was killed in a road/rail accident.

After a preparatory examination the case went to the High Court in Bulawayo where I gave evidence for the Crown before Sir Hugh Beadle, the Chief Justice. Piwe, the accused, was defended by Mr. Gasson but she declined to give evidence. The Court accepted her statement made to me which read: *I understand the charge. I strangled them, that is all.*

The Court found her guilty and sentenced her to 5 years’ hard labour on each of two counts of murder, the sentences to run concurrently. After the case I felt a bit depressed although it was clear the law had to take its course.

A sudden death is routinely investigated and I was kept fairly busy with suicides and the like. Suicide by hanging is not uncommon and during one investigation, I found the deceased still hanging from a tree. He was a big man and had used a riempie tied to the branch with a slip knot around his neck.

The possibility always existed that the deceased might have been murdered first and strung up later. So I decided to cut the branch, gently taking the weight of the deceased and removing everything in tact for further investigation. Fortunately there were sufficient volunteers for the gruesome task.

A frequent caller at Kezi was Ron Miles, stationed at Gwanda but now assigned to cattle cordons, necessitated by an outbreak of foot-and-mouth disease. Ron in fact was such a frequent visitor that he was pressed to return our hospitality. He made good his promise and one day arrived laden with provisions and his ‘cook-boy’. This was no regular ‘cook-boy’ as we discovered over a magnificent candle-lit dinner – there was no electricity – Ron’s ‘cook-boy’ had been a chef at one of the leading hotels.

Not long after this delicious interlude I ran into trouble whilst checking a bus from the ROC bus company, for any illegal transportation of meat prohibited by the foot-and-mouth disease regulations. It was (the end of the week-end,) Sunday, and the bus was on its way back to Bulawayo.

The passengers refused to surrender their *inyama* (meat) not understanding or caring that the meat may be affected by foot-and-mouth and likely to spread the disease.

I found myself facing a very hostile mob. The crowd of returning workers was keen to get home before the end of day, the meat from their villages would provide for the following week’s needs.

There were just the two of us, and as usual, we were unarmed.
The crowd was fast becoming belligerent and, gauging the level of aggression, I decided to withdraw quickly before the conflict deepened; it was neither the right time nor place to take on a defiant mob. I instructed the bus driver to wait which I doubted he would be able to obey, and together with my A.C. beat a hasty retreat to the charge office where Ted Mallon assembled a force, alerted Matopos and set up road blocks. The bus was stopped in the Matopos area where a sizeable force had been organized for this purpose and all inyama was confiscated.

Then, one day whilst on a motor-cycle patrol I called on a farm in the white-owned farming area close to the Matopos border. As I was chatting to the owner, I detected an Italian accent and asked the farmer, whose name I have forgotten, how he had come to be in Africa. He explained that he had been a Prisoner of War in South Africa in the 1940s. I casually mentioned that my father, Edward, had been an officer in the Union Defence force after escaping from Greece in 1941 - I have covered some of this in my book, *The Flight of the Falcons* - and had been assigned to Zonderwater, a new prisoner-of-war camp under construction, near Pretoria, where Italian-speaking officers were desperately sought. Well that did it! Jumping up, he embraced me in true Mediterranean fashion, telling me what a magnifico man my father had been. “Your father was the best man in the world, come now we must celebrate,” he said. Out came the food and wine. His cook was kept busy running back and forth whilst we dined like kings, toasting Eduardo.

Kezi, unlike other bush stations, boasted a reformatory. This meant interviewing and finger-printing the inmates but also occasionally pitting our skills against theirs’ in soccer matches, or relaxing at the odd show they put on.

We visited Gwanda for events like annual musketry, where in 1962, Paul Randall, Ron Miles and John Andrews were stationed. John and I met up again at Salisbury Airport in 1965 by which time he was in CID behind the one-way glass at the arrivals terminal; I believe he now lives in France.
Tony Rozemeyer was also at Gwanda and we met up there later. On one of my visits to Bulawayo, I had to call on the much feared Sam Weller SDO (Sub District Officer), who had a mean temper. Sam did not suffer fools easily, nor sloppy uniforms. Needless to say I had made sure that my appearance was spotless and beyond criticism and yet, he still found something to complain about. “Is that how the coloureds in the Cape wear their shorts?” he barked. I looked at him with a blank expression on my face. “What the hell does he mean by that?” I thought. I mumbled some reply trying to shift his focus elsewhere. “You’ll be due a transfer shortly”, he finished.

What a lovely country we enjoyed, quite sparsely populated, wonderfully rich in game. A country, that allowed one to shoot a buck for the pot, receive the gift of a chicken or some melon from the locals who often joined our circle around the fire, sharing our kill and their stories and news with us.

Notes
Rozemeyer, Anthony Henry (Tony) 6494 Section Officer
Mallon, Derek Edward (Ted) 4622 Chief Supt
Baird, Douglas 4650 Chief Insp
Garland, Brian (Ginger) ’53 5173 Insp
Harris, Nigel Lonsdale 5217 Chief Insp
Marshall, Derek 5867 Chief Insp
Fraser, Alexander Macdonald (Alec) 6145 Supt.
Evans, Richard Evan (Dick) 6122 Supt
Miles, Ronald Hector (Ron) 6099 Const
Randall, Paul 6196 Const
Andrews, John David 6156 D/S/O

ROC- Rhodesia Omnibus Company
Roberts, Francis Farewell - a personal friend of Bill Crabtree, as mentioned in his book, *Came the 4th Flag* - one of his ranches, Dube Ranch, was attacked unsuccessfully by terrorists on 24.09.64
Riempie - strip of leather cut from an animal skin
Kezi Charge Office, from Mess, with Doug Baird's pick-up just visible

D.A. SECURITY SERVICES
PERSONALLY MANAGED SECURITY GUARDING

Contact
LOCKIE HOWIE (8173)
Cell: 082 564 5197
Tel: (021) 510 1065
Fax: (021) 510 1055
E-Mail: dasecurity@telkomsa.net
Unit 9 Berbax Park, Berkley Rd, Maitland
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Fax: 086 547 6833 Mobile 083 757 8170 [Andrew-6226]
SMILE A WHILE

• In a pub quiz the other day I lost by one point. The question was where do women mostly have curly hair.? Apparently it is Africa.

• One of the other questions was to name two things commonly found in cells. It appears that Nigerians and Zimbabweans is not the correct answer.

• You can say lots of bad things about pedophiles but at least they drive slowly passed schools.

• A biker goes to the doctor with hearing problems. “Can you describe the symptoms to me.?” asked the doctor. “Yes Homer is a fat yellow lazy bastard and Marge is a skinny bird with big blue hair.”

The Silent Treatment.

A man and his wife were having some problems at home and were giving each other the silent treatment.
Suddenly, the man realized that he would need his wife to wake him the following morning at 5.00 am for an early morning flight.
Not wanting to be the first to break the silence, he wrote on a piece of paper, ‘Please wake me at 5.00 am’ He left the note where she could find it.
The next morning the man woke up only to discover it was 9.00 am and he had missed the flight. Furious, he was about to go and see why his wife hadn't wakened him, when he noticed a piece of paper by the bed. The paper read :- 'It is 5.00 am, Wake Up!.'
# Committee members of the Natal Branch of the BSAP Regimental Association: 2010 - 2011

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Phone(s)</th>
<th>Email</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chairman</td>
<td>Trevor Wilson</td>
<td>031 716 8233(h)</td>
<td><a href="mailto:tandl@ledom.co.za">tandl@ledom.co.za</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>082 324 9796</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secretary/ Treasurer</td>
<td>Des Howse</td>
<td>031 762 1010(h/f)</td>
<td><a href="mailto:deshowse@afrihost.co.za">deshowse@afrihost.co.za</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Treasurer</td>
<td>PO Box 3019</td>
<td>083 440 6740(c)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Assagay 3624</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Members</td>
<td>Dick Isemonger</td>
<td>031 765 7412(h)</td>
<td><a href="mailto:rbisemonger@telkomsa.net">rbisemonger@telkomsa.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>084 264 7653(c)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ken Wood</td>
<td>031 767 2875(h)</td>
<td><a href="mailto:kywood@polka.co.za">kywood@polka.co.za</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>084 737 4062(c)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Denis Wyatt</td>
<td>031 266 6871(h)</td>
<td><a href="mailto:DWyatt@hub.co.za">DWyatt@hub.co.za</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>073 979 0567(c)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outpost Editor</td>
<td>Trevor Dutton</td>
<td>031 764 3853(h/f)</td>
<td><a href="mailto:imakulu@gmail.com">imakulu@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6 Magenta Gardens</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>19 Park Lane</td>
<td>082 896 1911(c)</td>
<td></td>
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<td>KLOOF 3610</td>
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DURBAN SOUTH

The Member in Charge, **5042 Peter Arnold**, reports -

"What looked like a possible no show due to the inclement weather turned out to be an enjoyable "Bring & Braai" (on Sunday 14th November) for the 19 who turned up at the T C Robertson Nature Reserve at Scottburgh. The venue was in a state of refurbishing but the facilities available were sufficient for those present to have a pleasant session. The covered area was sufficient to accommodate those present and due to some forethought by one or two true Rhodesians braai grills were brought to use on the braai sites. Those present commented favourably on the site and its quiet country atmosphere.

We had support from Margate Station but it was regrettable members of the Natal Branch Committee were conspicuous by their absence.

Currently the Durban South Team are investigating other potential venues including the bowling club in Warner Beach where Neville Cook is a member. The next get together is provisionally set for March 2011 - venue as yet undecided."

*Regarding Peter’s complaint that none of the Natal Branch committee members attended their function I suggest the reason was due to having three different Association social events during the same month. This situation highlights the need for the Members in Charge to talk to each other – and “maak” a plan. Already we seem to be heading for a duplication – Margate and Durban South both indicate a preference for March this year for their next get togethers!……………..(td.)*

MARGATE

The Member in Charge, **8157 Barry Woan**, advises –

“ Gerry Powell, who underwent extensive heart surgery mid year, has recovered well and attended the Durban South Braai which was held a few weeks back.

My two "Police widows" Mavis De Bruin and Penny Callow work hard at keeping "us youngsters" in line and we meet most weeks for a cuppa and chat. Both are in good health.

Dennis O Hanlon who has recently joined the Association and who has run a Pub and Grill in Port Edward for many years had to contend with a fire which destroyed most of the premises.

Luckily no one was hurt and repairs were completed just before the Christmas rush. It goes without saying that the Pub is well supported by our contingent down here.
Myles and Trish Cathcart-Cunnison spent a few days with us recently and loved the area so much that they are to move here in March and will be resident in Southbroom. We welcome them both to the Station.

Brian and Rose Goddard who currently reside in Rustenburg were also down here recently on a house hunting exercise and have bought a cluster right opposite Penny Callow. Brian retires next year and will be transferring his membership from the Transvaal to the Natal Association (this is a pre requisite to living within the Margate Station area).

Sakkie McKay whose wife Colleen tragically passed away a few months ago spent a couple of days at the “Woanery”. He too is house hunting and is hoping to move to strengthen the Ranks soon.

The SAP Legion of Police Officials, the equivalent of our Association, has a Branch here on the South Coast. They are very interested in getting together on a social basis and to get things moving I hosted a gathering which included a group from the SAP headed by ex Major General Gert Schoeman, Peter Huson, Andy Messina, Fred Mason, Des Howse and I propped up our side. We had a nice chin wag and will certainly organize a couple of gatherings later in the year in order to foster a good relationship amongst former "coppers"

The Margate station Braai is scheduled for March with exact date to be finalised.

Butch and Hilary Von Horsten have been in Australia visiting family over Christmas and should be back sometime in January.”
PHOTOGRAPHIC ROUND-UP. - PHOTOS TAKEN AT THE HILLCREST BRAAI ON 21 NOVEMBER 2010

Fred & Lindsay Mason

Ben Pretorius

Hugh Dixon

John Lees

Peter Colepeper  Pete Garland  Ant

Neil Smith

WESTERN CAPE OUTPOST
Roll of Honour

4631 Alexander Anderson “Alec” Blair passed away on the 3rd November, 2010, in Calgary, Canada. Alex served from May, 1950 to December, 1975, and retired as Assistant Commissioner. During his career he was a keen shottist and represented the force in various competitions. He was the first officer to be commissioned after UDI – in January, 1966.


6441 Brian Reginald Stevenson-Baker (PMM) died on the 16th October, 2010, in London. Brian served from July, 1961 to August, 1983 and retired as a Chief Inspector. Brian spent most of his service in the CID and was a most respected detective. In July, 1979 he was awarded the Police Medal for Meritorious Service.

4738 Raymond Horace George Walker died on the 21st December, 2010, at his home in Swainsthorpe, UK. He served in the force between June, 1951, June 1961, retiring with the rank of Detective Sergeant. Few will know that Ray was the founder member of XB, the predecessor of Special Branch.

4317 Peter Wallace Richmond “Tickie” Woods died on the 1st November, 2010, in Bethlehem, New Zealand. Tickie served from November, 1948 to March, 1972 and retired as a Chief Inspector. Prior to joining the Force he saw service with the Royal Hampshire Regiment. Most of his career was in Matabeleland and smaller town stations.

5695 David John Sloman passed away on the 4th January, 2011, in Johannesburg, after a long illness with cancer. Dave served in the Force from April, 1957, to May, 1983, and retired with the rank of Assistant Commissioner. Dave was the immediate passed Chairman of the Transvaal Branch of the Association, a role he fulfilled for many years with dignity, ability and dedication. He will be greatly missed by all members of the Transvaal Association and all those that knew him.


6057 Michael “Mike” John Tasker died on the 20th January, 2011, in Marondera, Zimbabwe as a result of a stroke. Mike served from August, 1959 into the 1980's and the Zimbabwe Republic Police. He retired with the rank of Chief Superintendent. He was not a member of the BSAP Association.

3974 James Liddle McEwan passed away (date unknown) in Bulawayo. He served from April, 1946 to May, 1969, when he retired as Chief Inspector.

6431 Ian William Penfold died on the 23rd January, 2011, in Truro, UK. Ian served from July, 1961, to July, 1970, and left the force with the rank of Section Officer. He was a member of the Transvaal Branch before moving to the UK.

4346 Terrence Cottam passed away on the 24th January, 2011, in Auckland, New Zealand. Terry served in the Palestinian Police before joining the BSAP. He served for three years before moving on and doing time with the Kent Constabulary, the Northern Rhodesia Police and the New Zealand Police Force where he served for 24 years and retired as Detective.
Roll of Honour continued...

Senior Sergeant. He was a member of the BSAP Association in New Zealand.


4228 Anthony Michael Hubbard died on the 31st January, 2011, in Cape Town, after suffering a heart attack following immediately after a motor vehicle accident. Tony's wife was admitted to hospital after the accident. Tony served from December, 1947 to March, 1973, and retired as a Chief Superintendent. He was not a member of the BSAP Association.

8709 Michael Gordon Franklin died on the 2nd February, 2011, in the United Kingdom. He served from December, 1971, to May, 1982, when he retired as L/Inspector. He was a member of the Natal Branch of the Association.
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 mcmanus@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 flik.bennett@vodamail.co.za
Transvaal Dick Glanville dickg@telkomsa.net

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

USA Will Cornell bsapusa@aol.com

ZIMBABWE

Central Peter Bellingham pjb@mango.zw
Webmaster Andrew Field andrew@field.co.zw
Mashonaland Red O’Connell roc@radserv.co.zw
Matabeleland Denise Hurry karden@mweb.co.zw
Manicaland Malcom Smith malcom.smith@sandrik.com

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

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