



BATTLEDRESS SHELLHOLE
CENTRAL CIRCLE, FISH HOEK
PO BOX 22033 FISH HOEK 7974
Email battledress.shellhole@gmail.com



BATTLECRY NEWSLETTER

SPECIAL EDITION – REMEMBRANCE DAY 2018

Hello, everyone

Welcome to this special edition of Battledress Shellhole's newsletter for November 2018. November of any year is a busy time for Moths and Friends of the Founder's Room; however, as 2018 is the Centenary of the Armistice in 1918, it is accordingly, befitting to have a special edition newsletter.



Sunset Call – Moth 19293 Ian “Kirk” Kirkpatrick

It was with deep regret that Battledress Shellhole announced the passing to Higher Service of Moth Ian “Kirk” Kirkpatrick, on 01 November 2018. Kirk, at 93 years of age was a legend at Battledress. His endearing spirit and wonderful tongue in cheek humour, and who many described as the life and soul of the party, not least for his love of dancing, Kirk was also a veteran of the D Day landings. Kirk was presented with the Legion de Honour by the French embassy in 1917. A moving and well attended memorial service was led by Padre Errol Sadler at the MOTH Hall on 09 November 2018, and at which sincere condolences were given to Kirk's wife, Pam, his daughters Bev and Cherie and his family overseas. We will remember him.



Moth Ronnie Gilbert – Scattering of Ashes



In August of this year, Moth Ronnie Gilbert answered his sunset call. On 16 October, on a sunny and calm morning, a small group of people boarded the tug-boat “Umalusi” in Simon's Town to scatter Ronnie's ashes at sea. Anchored off the submarine buoy, Padre Errol Sadler conducted a moving final service as Ronnie's ashes were committed to the sea. His Angels, at the ready, as in his life and at his death, were thought to be wearing his beloved Rangers football shirts and playing the bag pipes, to welcome him home!



BIRTHDAYS

Wishing all the following Moths/Mothwa/Friends of the Founders Room the very best for your birthdays in November and in advance for December:

15 November – Ian Scott - Welfare Officer

17 November – Smudge Smith

25 November – Les Lancaster

29 November – Carl Fobian

16 December - Alice Laubscher – a very happy 90 years young milestone!

19 December – Alan Green

24 December – Bridget Coney - Adjutant



SICK LIST

In our thoughts for speedy recoveries to good health are:

Moth Les Smith, Moth Dirk Slingerland, Moth George van Willingham and Roger Farmer FOFR



SHELLHOLE OF THE YEAR 2018 – BATTLEDRESS!

Congratulations to Commander Ricky De Wet, his Executive Committee, Moths and FOFR when Battledress was awarded the Shellhole of the Year 2018. On 1st November at the Shellhole Meeting, Cape Western Provincial Dugout's Old Bill, Deon Van Den Berg presented Commander Ricky De Wet with the award.

BATTLE OF TRAFALGAR DINNER

On Saturday, 27th October Battledress Shellhole hosted a Trafalgar dinner to commemorate the famous battle of 1805 in which the British Royal Navy defeated the combined fleets of France and Spain. Aboard his flag ship HMS Victory, Admiral Lord Nelson



sustained a mortal bullet wound during the height of the battle. Shortly before succumbing to his wound, Nelson was told of the British success in defeating the enemy and said "Thank God, I have done my duty."

As Master of Ceremonies, Commander Ricky De Wet hosted the evening and welcomed Provincial Old Bill Deon van Den Berg and his partner, Gina, to the evening,

Adjutant Bridget Coney provided the Grace, Moths Phil De Villiers, Robby Abrahamse and Deputy Commander Julie Denham provided toasts to Our Country/Ons Land, Absent Comrades and The Queen, respectively. Cape Western Provincial Dugout's Old Bill, Deon Van den Berg toasted the MOTH Order. A superb, restaurant quality 4 course meal, prepared by Richard De Wet of the Tasty Table in Simon's Town, was served and thoroughly enjoyed by everyone who attended.



Entrée

Tomato & red lentil soup with basil oil
&

Smoked salmon pate,
olive tapenade & village bread

Main Course

Hunter's chicken, garlic and rosemary baby
potatoes

Or

Cape Malay Bobotie with jeweled rice

Dessert

Dark chocolate torte, cappuccino mousse

Poppy Day Collection

In support of the South African Legion, Battledress Shellhole again volunteered to collect donations for Poppy Day (10th November) in the Fish Hoek neighbourhood. Last year we collected R4,090.15 and this year R5,744.75.



In Flanders Fields

In Flanders fields the poppies blow
Between the crosses, row on row,
That mark our place; and in the sky
The larks, still bravely singing, fly
Scarce heard amid the guns below.

We are the Dead. Short days ago
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,
Loved and were loved, and now we lie
In Flanders fields.

Take up our quarrel with the foe:
To you from failing hands we throw
The torch; be yours to hold it high.
If ye break faith with us who die
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow
In Flanders fields.

- Lieutenant Colonel John McCrae



In true Comradeship Susanna Thomas (84 years old) ex Burma Star Association Member and retiree of Noordhoek Manor collected R1,304.40 on her own (not included in total above). Thank you residents of Noordhoek Manor for your generosity!



Here is a pic of Susanna standing proudly with her Poppy tin in front of her Air Force husband's pictures of the planes he flew during the War.

There But Not There "Tommy" Campaign

Readers of the International Express newspaper will have read about the 'There But Not There "Tommy" campaign', which has seen outlines of a 6 foot "Tommy" figures to Tommy lapel pins being made available. Whilst on holiday in the UK in August, Moth Vanessa Chambers saw the six foot Tommy figures at various railway stations, airports and shopping centres. Money raised from the sale of the Tommy products not only raised awareness for the campaign, but also supported other charities including Walking With The Wounded, Help for Heroes, the Royal Foundation and the Commonwealth War Graves Foundations. Are there any South Africans who are interested in promoting this campaign in South Africa?



ARMISTICE REMEMBRANCE PARADES 2018

On the 11th hour, of the 11th day, of the 11th month in 1918, the First World War ended. Each year, parades are held throughout the world to commemorate the fallen of the Great War, and every war thereafter. The numbers of those killed in the Great War vary for some bodies were never recovered or identified. For South Africa, the figures were 146 000 white men, 45 000 nurses, 45 000 blacks and 15 000 coloureds who had volunteered their services to fight against Germany. Reportedly, of those figures, over 12 500 South Africans died during the conflict and no one will forget the 2 300 South African men who died at Delville Wood.

The following Centenary Remembrance parades were attended by Moths between 04th November to 11th November 2018:

Rhodesia Flame Lily Remembrance Parade

On Sunday 04th November, Moths, family and friends gathered to attend the service to honour and remember

the sacrifices made by those who served in the Rhodesia Armed Forces and civilians killed in the Rhodesia Bush war. After the Southern Rhodesia government declared independence from Britain on 11 November 1965, the young and old of Rhodesia, fought side by side in a constantly escalating ZANU and ZAPU incursions. The country had already been fighting an economic war sanctions against it, with many still remembering travelling in convoy and escorted by defence force personnel to and from Beit Bridge border post for much sought after luxuries like Marmite, tins of tuna, chocolate and perhaps the odd bottle of wine, or whisky, for Christmas treats. Rhodesians fought on both fronts until the Lancaster House Agreement brokered a political and economic peace for generations of a war weary nation. We will remember them.



Sunset Armistice and Centenary Remembrance Parade



Battledress proudly participated in our Fish Hoek Centenary Remembrance Parade, commemorating both Fish Hoek 100 and the Armistice centenaries. The service was held at 17h00 at the Garden of Remembrance in Fish Hoek on Sunday 4th November. As the centenary of the town was also celebrated, the parade through Recreation, Main and Kommetjie Roads was one of the largest seen, with Battledress Moths marching from the car park on Second Avenue with the Pipe Band, led by Pipe Major Tony Reis, with Navy Cadets, community services and organisations taking part.

Celebrations continued well into the evening with snacks and refreshments provided, in particular, Saveur of Simon's Town, providing 15 large platters of food for the hungry 200 people who attended the after-parade function in the Moth Hall. Thanks were also expressed to the ladies in preparing and clearing the hall for the occasion. You do not realise how many plates, cups and saucers, glasses and cutlery is washed up – until you are elbow deep in sink-full of washing up water!



Photography supplied courtesy of Photographer Evelyn Lyle (Echo newspaper)

Garden of Remembrance's Cairn

A little known fact: on the morning of the Battledress - Fish Hoek Centenary Parade, Commander Ricky de Wet visited the Cairn in the Garden of Remembrance to check everything was in order for the parade later that evening. The Cairn and garden had been vandalised and desecrated several times during the year by vagrants sleeping in the garden and using it as a communal toilet. To his dismay, Commander de Wet, found that the cairn had again been vandalized; plaques had been broken and the electronics within it ripped out and a vagrant's mattress stuffed inside of it.



Quick thinking and sending out a call for help, Robin Day (pictured here with the Commander) answered the call and replaced and frosted the Perspex, returning the cairn to an acceptable condition. Thank you, Robin Day! Thanks also to the Battledress Works Party members who assisted in getting the electronics and clean up completed before the start of the parade.

City of Cape Town Remembrance Parade

The Adderley Street Parade on the 11th of the 11th month, which many regard as the main Remembrance Parade in South Africa, was held with music provided by the Cape Town Highlanders Pipes and Drums. At this year's

Centenary Armistice parade, Pipe Major Charles Canning recanted that when peace was finally declared and The Great War was over, "a call went out from the Piper's Centre in Glasgow, asking bands around the world to play When the Battle's O'er" across specific time zones in order that pipes and drums would be played "as if we were one".

Battledress' Commander, Ricky de Wet, participated with other Battledress Moths and hundreds of other citizens celebrating and remembering the solemnity of the occasion.



*Photo courtesy of Moth Deon Van Den Berg
(via MOTH Facebook page)*

Did you know: The Two Minutes of Silence

There have been many accounts over the years about how the two minutes silence, in memory of the fallen in the Great War, came about. From a South African perspective, one explanation was that in May 1918, it was thought that the Mayor of Cape Town initiated a period of silence, which he regarded as befitting the remembrance of all troops killed in the war. Initially a three minute silence was suggested after the firing of the Noon Gun, on 14 May 1918. Subsequently, the silence of silence was shortened to two minutes; the first to remember survivors of the war, and the second in respect of the dead. Sir Percy Fitzpatrick, author of Jock of the Bushveld fame, and whose own son had been killed in the war, subsequently wrote to Lord Milner in the Cape Government to recommend the universal support for a two minute silence. With approval of the War Cabinet and King George V, this became accepted as the world-wide expression for the remembrance of "the glorious dead." The two minute silence was first officially observed in 1919.



Above photo courtesy of Overstrand Municipality (via MOTH Facebook page)

Hermanus Remembrance Parade

A number of Battledress Moths attended the parade in Hermanus on 11th November, in particular members of the MMA who gathered at the Cenotaph, Market Square. Snacks and drinks followed at the Old Boy's Club where toasts were made to remember the fallen. Moth Robby Abrahamse in front with the MOTH Standard.

MOvember

We can put a man on the moon and we are thinking about life on Mars, but a cure for cancer remains out of reach. Pink Day, Blisters for Sisters and Women's cancers are well advertised and fortunately well supported in most instances. Many people however are unaware that the month of November is male cancers awareness month. You may have seen one or two moustached ladies in Battledress this month and they are supporters of MOvember, donning their moustaches in support of husbands, brothers, sons or uncles to promote awareness for cancers of the prostate, or testicular, or even male breasts.



The photo (above) is a couple of the MOvember Warriors – Moths Charlie Phillipson, Vanessa Chambers, Richard Evans and new FOFR member John Lewis. Well done!

Questions from the Home Front

It is always interesting talking to and hearing from people who are able to share experiences and services, and from time to time, who visit Battledress Shellhole. What though, of those who cannot come to the Shellhole, whether it is because of poor health, or lack of transport, or just feel that have been forgotten? We would like to hear from you and answer any questions you might like to ask or share, with other recipients of the newsletter.

A R50 gift voucher for CNA can be won by the first person who correctly answers the following three questions:

1. Which Shellhole won the Shellhole of the Year in 2018?
2. Which famous Knighted author's recommendation for a two-minute silence on Armistice Day, won the approval of King George V?
3. Which poet penned "In Flanders Fields"?

Send your reply to: battledres.shellhole@gmail.com with the heading November Competition, followed by your answers, full name and email/address and telephone number. The winner's name will be published in the December issue of Battlecry.

Please remember to make donations in the barrel in the Founders Room for our Christmas Charity drive.

Non-Perishable and toiletries are greatly appreciated!

Buy a R2 raffle ticket for a chance to win the Christmas Hamper

Forthcoming December Events:



Saturday 01 08h00 Morning Market

This was the last Morning Market run by Alice Laubscher, who is to 'retire' for a quieter life. Alice has run the morning markets at the Moth Hall since Every market's takings were given to Battledress Shellhole, keeping nothing for herself. Battledress salutes you, Alice.

Sunday	16	All day Alice Laubscher 90 th birthday
Monday	17	10h00 River Plate Breakfast (Public Holiday)
Saturday	22	13h00 Christmas Cheer

Our next Shellhole meeting is on Thursday 6th December 2018 at 19h00

Yours in True Comradeship

Scribes: Moth Julie Denham & Moth Vanessa Chambers

Email: battledress.shellhole@gmail.com

Website: www.moth.org.za

Facebook: www.facebook.com/groups/mothO

Famous Quotes

"Never in the field of human conflict was so much owed by so many to so few ..."
Winston Churchill 20th Aug 1940

FOUNDERS ROOM OPENING TIMES
Wednesday 15h00 -19h00
Friday 17h00-22h00
Saturday 13h00 to 20h00
Sunday and Public Holidays 13h00-18h00
Closed Good Friday and Christmas Day

Monthly Quiz on the first Friday of the month
(General Knowledge and Musical Quiz is held on alternate months)
Bingo on the third Friday of the month
Darts on the last Friday of the month
The above are normally held every month except in the month of
January, but may change due to unforeseen changes.

Monthly Braai is on the last Sunday.

SPORT VIEWING TIMES ARE ON THE SHELLHOLE NOTICE BOARD

**Approved opening times will be adjusted for certain events,
functions and televised sporting events
as per the Shellhole Notice Board.**