



BATTLEDRESS SHELLHOLE
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BATTLECRY NEWSLETTER JUNE- JULY 2019

Hello everyone,

If you happened to come across a social media clip the other day about the number of days left until Christmas Day, you will know how fast this year is flying by. Hopefully, this newsletter finds you well, so put the kettle on, put your feet up and enjoy reading the latest edition of Battlecry! newsletter.



Sunset Calls

Whilst we look to the future, let us never forget those who have served as Moths. Moth Dave Olivier of Bomb Alley Shellhole answered the sunset call on 26 June and Moth Hans Heuschneider of Blaauwberg Cuca Shellhole on 15 July.

We will remember them!

Sick Parade There are still some (very) unwell Moths and FOFR and we ask that you keep their speedy recoveries in your thoughts and prayers:

Moth Commander Ricky De Wet
Moth Ena Burnett
Moth Smudge Smith
Moth Dirk Slingerland
Moth Richard Evans
Moth Leonard Marais
Moth George Van Willingham
Moth Carl Fobian
Mothwa Alice Laubscher
FOFR Roger Farmer
FOFR Brenda Murrell
FOFR MMA Cindy de Kock



Thanks to both Padre Errol Sadler and Welfare Officer Moth Ian Scott for their much-appreciated visits to those in need of prayer and companionship.

Membership Applications Moths

Minnaar van der Merwe and Donald Grove who had both applied to join as Moths, serving in the SAPS and SADF (6th S.A.I.) respectively, were successful in their applications. Donald will be inducted at the September meeting; Minnaar still has to attend 1 more meeting.

BIRTHDAYS

If you have not been attending monthly meetings or social events at the Shellhole, you will have missed the birthdays being celebrated in June and July, as well as scrumptious cake and drinks:

June

Moth Mike Fields

Moth Vic van der Merwe

Moth Adrian Dutton

FOFR Joan Farmer

Special mention to Cape Western Provincial Dugout Old Bill Deon van den Berg

July

Moth Albert Massyn

Moth Alan Hopfeldt

Moth Phillip Venter

Moth Greg Hutchinson

Moth Skatie Fourie

Moth Vanessa Chambers

Moth Warren Cowan

Moth Julie Denham

FOFR Kate Parr

FOFR John Lewis (Milestone Birthday)



New Executive Committee Members

Just a quick update! Congratulations to the following Moth Members which were elected at Battledress Shellhole's AGM on 01 August. They were duly inducted by the CWPDP Deputy POB Leon Robertson, assisted by his Provincial Adjutant, Moth Daphne Floyd.

More pics and news on special awards that were given at the AGM, in the next newsletter!

Executive Committee:

Commander/Old Bill: Ricky de Wet

Deputy Commander: Julie Denham

Adjutant: Ian Scott

Pay Bill: Warren Cowan

Sub-Committee:

Sgt. Maj: Neil Bright

Padre: Errol Sadler

Hall Manager/Bar manager: Richard Evans

Welfare: Ian Scott

Training/Recruiting officer: Keith Galvin

Play Bill: Leon Haralambous

Rag Bill: Vanessa Chambers

Quiz Master: Alan Hopfeldt

Orderly Sergeant: Albert Massyn



TRAINING by Moth Keith Galvin



All Moths are expected to know the following:

MOTH Emblem – Members of the Order shall at **all** times wear the Tin Hat, as approved and supplied by MOTH General Headquarters (MOTH Constitution Clause 9).

MOTH Salute – The salute of the Order is the ‘rest on arms reversed’ position and shall be used on all occasions (MOTH Constitution Clause 11).

CONDUCT and DRESS – All Moths shall dress and conduct themselves according to the laid down Provincial General Standing Orders (MOTH Constitution Clause 12).

D Day Commemoration 06 June



What is there (left) to be said about D Day that has not been said for the last 75 years? Veterans, allies and enemies alike, and the generations which followed, still find much to talk about, write about, sing about and movies have been made about D Day. Battledress Shellhole commemorated the D Day landings on the evening of 08 June by holding a formal dinner evening, honouring the sacrifice and memory of so many who gave their all that day. Table décor inclusive of maps

depicting the five landing beaches – Sword, Utah, Juno, Omaha and Gold, and a most moving tribute enacted by Moths and FOFR, played out under the Directorship of Smudge “Spielberg” Smith said so much more than words could say. Moth Angelique Visser and Warren Cowan’s partner, Karen De Villiers provided medical assistance and comfort to the wounded and dying. There was many a tearful eye and a lump in the throat. The human cost of D Day varies from one publication to another; it is safe to say that over 5000 known allied casualties were counted. Many of course, army, navy and air force personnel were lost and their bodies never recovered. It is incredible and unimaginable to even try and envisage what the morning of 06 June was like for those who were not there. Also incredible was the fact that only one Victoria Cross was awarded that day. Battledress is extremely proud to display the French Legion d’ Honneur medal awarded to late Moth Ian “Kirk” Kirkpatrick for his participation in D Day. Of course, as is know from experiences of world wars, or wars closer to home, it is essential to remember and give thanks to those who died on the fields of history - before history, as we know it, could be re-written for reasons of political correctness. Also not to be forgotten was the 75th anniversary of the bombardment of Monte Cassino in Italy; desert battles fought in North Africa, Ethiopia, and of course wars closer to home, here in South Africa and Rhodesia.



Lest We Forget. We Will Remember Them.

Do you know what the collective noun for spies is? You might find the answer treacherous! Look out for next month's newsletter where you will discover the answer. Beware, there are spies everywhere!

MOTHS CALENDAR – EVENTS

It is sometimes feast or famine with activities at Battledress Shellhole. With the energetic and committed Play Bill, Moth Leon Haralambous, and his hard-working committee organising this year's events, it is proving to be more of a feast in these last couple of months:

Music Quiz

On Friday 12 July, the musical maestro's, Moth Julie Denham and Sandy Smit, took their musical quiz to 'leettle Patee' for the Bastille celebrations in Franschoek. A great time was had by all participants and photographs of the reverie will be posted in next month's newsletter. Missed out this year? Be sure you check your dates for next year!



Delville Wood Commemoration Service – Sunday 21 July



Delville Wood (Lcpl W.A. Beattie 4th SAI)

“From hour to hour the battled
raged and fearful tumult reigned
And still they fought as men inspired
and still their ground maintained;
And as their stricken comrades fell,
the shattered boughs dropped down
In pity for their mangled forms – and
made their laurel crown.”

Black Tot Day – 27 July

A sold-out social function for the infamous Black Tot Day took place on Saturday, 27 July. A fun day of skits and a roast luncheon was surely one of the Shellhole's events that were not to be missed. Special thanks to Dawn Patrol Shellhole who came out in full force and put on a skit too!



The Funeral procession
Les Lancaster, Neil Bright and Robby Abrahamse



Ship Mates Smudge Smith &
Dave Revell



Dawn Patrol Shellhole

Butterflies



During the month of June the “Ladies Who Lunch” enjoyed a wine-tasting day out at Vredenheim Wine Farm in Stellenbosch. By all accounts, it was a day well spent with some sightings of the famous white lions being had. If you are a Moth/FOFR widow and you would like some social company, why not think about joining this young at heart group of fun loving ladies? Contact the Shellhole and you will be put in touch with Madame Butterfly herself, Bridget Coney.

Snippets

Shellhole Movements

Staaldak Shellhole - Should anyone be venturing out to Montagu and wanting to call in to the Staaldak Shellhole, don't forget that they have moved premises to their new location in Market Street, Montagu.

Bomb Alley Shellhole - Bomb Alley Shellhole has also moved to new premises and can be found at the Brackenfell Cricket Club, Brackenfell.

Monthly Get-Togethers

Have you been wondering what to do with your Friday nights, or feeling bored on a weekend and would like to do something different? Why not join Battledress at its regular get-togethers, some of which include:

Bingo

Darts

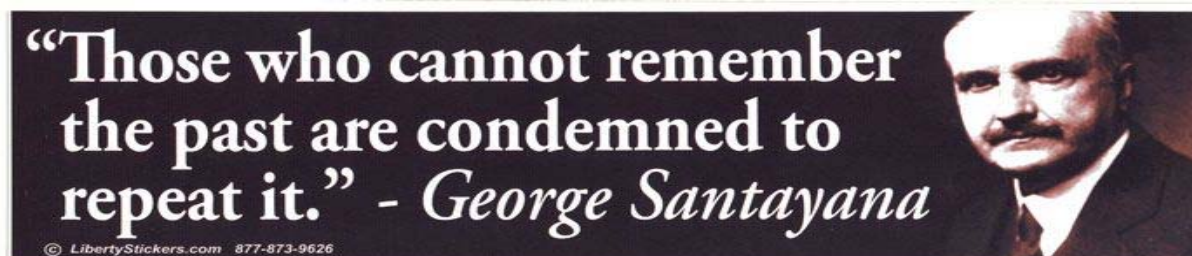
Music Quiz

General Knowledge Quiz

Morning Markets

Weekend braais

DNA and Forensic Discovery



Did you know that the Commonwealth War Graves Commission instigated a programme to identify and recover some of the remains of the British 61st Infantry Division and the 5th Australian Division soldiers who fell during the Battle of Fromelles in July 1916? The Battle had been intended to draw German troops away from the Somme offensive but ended disastrously for the allied troops. But in 2006, in Pheasant Wood near Fromelles, a number of burial pits of soldiers from the Battle were discovered. Three years later in 2009, forensic and DNA scientists took samples of the soldiers remains and in tracing potential relatives, had by 2010, identified more than 250 soldiers who were re-interred at a new military cemetery at Fromelles.

Thanks!



A big thanks to GC badge (Good Comradeship) member Denise Lamont (wife of Moth John Lamont) for the beautiful pennants that she has made. Battledress Shellhole will be very proud to hand these out to other Moth Shellholes on special occasions!

Who Are You?

Rosamund "Ros" Barnett originally from Southampton in England, became a FOFR almost by accident. Born English, Ros is one of the very few at the Shellhole who can sing the Welsh national anthem word for word, having lived in Milford Haven, West Wales for some years before joining the Women's Royal Naval Service at the age of 17 in the mid 1960's. Ros served as a Writer with the Commander in Chief's Staff, at Portsmouth Dockyard and later on at the Work Study School in the then Victoria Barracks.

Marrying her husband John, who was serving in the Royal Navy, Ros left the WRNS and initially moved to near Glasgow, Scotland until she and her family moved to Cape Town in 1972 where John obtained work in Simon's Town Dockyard, working on the French-bought submarines. Interestingly, Ros left the WRNS as pregnant women were not able to wear uniform. The family lived in Cape Town for 9 years before pulling up anchor and moved to Durban. Sadly, Ros lost her husband but continued to live in Durban with her 3 sons for 38 years, retiring only in 2016.

Retirement was not the only big change for Ros, as the following year in 2017; she attended a funeral service in Fish Hoek for someone who had emigrated to South Africa in 1972, at the same time as Ros and her family. That person was Carol Botha, a FOFR at Battledress Shellhole.

Ros subsequently decided to move to Fish Hoek permanently and made an application to join the Shellhole as a Moth. However, not having seen active service during her time with the WRNS, she did not qualify but was delighted to be able to join as a FOFR. Ros is a lively, social and integral member of the FOFR, as well as the Butterflies/Widow's Group who enjoy days out to interesting venues, weekend braais and quiz shows at the Shellhole. Cheers to you Ros, it's good to know you!



Many of you have interesting stories to tell. Here at Battledress, we would like to meet and get to know you. You are welcome to email, or post a letter to us, or even just send your contact details and we will arrange for a Roving Reporter to come to you.

Many of you will have served your country during the World War II years, either in South Africa, or perhaps in Italy, or North Africa; fighting, or perhaps with the Entertainment Corp. Where are you Border Veterans and your stories? Where are you Rhodesians? Your stories, mementos and especially your then and now photographs will be appreciated.

If you would like to share your story and interests send your details to The Rag Bill at battledress.shellhole@gmail.com.

Forthcoming Events

Do diarise the following events taking place in September;

07	14h00	<i>MMA Biker Day Jol at Daytona, Killarney</i>
15	10h30	<i>Battle of Britain Church Service, Simon's Town</i>
29	11h00	<i>Battle of Square Hill Service, Castle of Good Hope</i>

and early reminders for October:

19	19h00	<i>Trafalgar Dinner, Battledress Shellhole</i>
27	11h00	<i>El Alamein Parade, Castle of Good Hope</i>

Until we meet again,

Rag Bill

Vanessa Chambers

Moth Vanessa Chambers

Email: battledress.shellhole@gmail.com

Website: www.moth.org.za

FOUNDERS ROOM OPENING TIMES

Wednesday 16h00 -20h00

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.

