



BATTLEDRESS SHELLHOLE
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BATTLECRY! NOVEMBER 2019

Hello, Everyone

Well, what a very busy November it has been. So busy in fact that to combine a November and December Battlecry! newsletter would have used up your data limits and crashed your reading devices! Never the less, by the time you are reading this edition, December's is already taking shape. November, in particular, was a month of Remembrance Service Parades and the Moths at Battledress Shellhole do our utmost to be at as many as we can, remembering the brave and the fallen, as well as those who returned in body, if not in soul, and the families who welcomed them back.

We Will Remember Them

We have photographs from November's events for you to look and reminisce over, news of what Battledress has been doing and feedback from the Poppy Day Collection on behalf of the SA Legion. Kettle boiled? Pour yourself that cup of tea with a biscuit or two and put your feet up, get comfy and let's take a trip through November 2019.

Sunset Call – 19285 Moth Carl William Frederick Fobian



It was with much sadness that one of the longest serving Battledress Shellhole Moths passed to higher service at 94 years of age on 05 November. Carl celebrated 65 years as a Battledress Moth.



He was awarded the Italian Star, the War Medal and the Africa Service Medal for his service to his country between 1939-1945. His sense of duty extended to helping his community and was one of the soldiers who contributed two days pay to the building of the Red Cross Children's hospital. Carl was involved with the original Meals On Wheels in Fish Hoek and became a Life member of Battledress Shellhole, receiving a Certificate of

Achievement in recognition of his 65 years as a Moth.

Condolences go to Carl's family and friends who spoke of Carl's love of family and community at his memorial service in Fish Hoek on 15 November. In a fitting tribute, Commander Ricky De Wet led Moths in the Moth Tribute at the service. We will remember him.

Sick Parade

It's pleasing to see that some Moths and FOFR are in better health, but there are a few who still require your thoughts and prayers:

Moth Ena Burnett

Moth Smudge Smith

Moth Richard Evans*

Moth Leonard Marais

Moth George Van Willingham

Mothwa Alice Laubscher

Moth Sam van der Poll

Liz Killian (widow of Battledress Moth Bill Killian)

*Richard Evans finally had his long-awaited operation on his spine and is recovering at home. Get well soon, Richard, we're keen for you take up your Bar Manager's post once you have fully recovered!



Thanks to Padre Errol Sadler and Adjutant/Welfare Officer Moth Ian Scott for their continued visits to those in need of care, company and compassion.

BIRTHDAYS

November

15 November – Ian Scott Welfare Officer – 70th Milestone birthday

17 November- Moth Smudge Smith

25 November- Moth Les Lancaster

30 November- Moth Angelique Visser

December

16 December – Mothwa Alice Laubscher

19 December – Moth Alan Green

24 December – FOFR Bridget Coney – 70th Milestone birthday

Many happy returns to you all and have a wonderful year ahead.



CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations are extended to Moth Dave Revell on his appointment as the Old Bill of the Order for 2019/20, at the MOTH AGM in Durban on 17 November 2019.



Having retired from the South African Navy in 1998, Moth Revell became a Moth in 2002 when he joined Red Barn/Tavern of the Seas Shellhole. Some 13 years later, he finally accepted the position of Provincial Old Bill. His trademarks of leadership, comradeship and influence are both sought after and admired. Congratulations from everyone at Battledress Shellhole, Moth Revell.

TRAINING DRESS CODES

To all Moths and Non-Moths of Battledress Shellhole:

Please adhere to the laid down Dress Codes at all official Moth gatherings when visiting the Shellhole and/or Founder's Room.



These rules/orders/clauses are contained in the Moth constitution Clause 12, in the Cape Western Provincial Dugout Constitution Clause 10 (in its entirety) and in Battledress Shellhole Standing Orders Clause 10.1 and 10.2.

These publications are available in the Founder's Room, on the Moth Website or can be made available upon request (contact the Training Officer Moth Keith Galvin).

Dress codes for functions, events and organised activities will be advised on advertising posters/invitations. To minimise any embarrassment, sponsors introducing potential members and/or visitors should bring the appropriate dress requirements to their attention **prior**

to them when visiting the Shellhole or when attending the Shellhole's monthly meeting. Moths are asked to be respectful of the Shellhole's dress code, accordingly.

NOVEMBER 2019 REMEMBRANCE DAY SERVICE PARADES

For 100 years, Remembrance Day has been acknowledged throughout the Commonwealth Nations, the first ever being held in 1919. On the 11th hour, of the 11th day, of the 11th month, we remember members of Armed Forces who made the ultimate sacrifice in World War I, the war which was to have ended all wars. Battlecry! readers will remember from the November 2018 newsletter, the part played by Cape Town's Mayor and Sir Percy Fitzpatrick's influence in succeeding in getting King George V's approval in 1919 for the two minutes silence, as respect for those who lost their lives during World War I.

Flame Lily Remembrance



In one of the first Remembrance Services attended in the Western Cape on 03 November, some Battledress Moths attended the Flame Lily Remembrance Service held at the Methodist Church in Fish Hoek. Generally regarded as the Service for the fallen during the Rhodesian Bush War, wreaths were laid by Battledress Moths Ena Burnett, Skattie Fourie, who also laid a wreath on behalf of Moth Glyn Murrell (ex Guardforce) and Deputy Commander Moth Julie Denham who also read the MOTH Credo and Prayer.



Battledress Shellhole Remembrance Service Parade

Also on 03 November, Battledress Shellhole held its own Remembrance Day Service Parade. Led by Pipe Major Tony Reis of the Cape Town Caledonian Pipe and Drums band, Sea Cadets, Scouts, Cubs, Girl Guides, Scholars, Mothwa, Other military organisations, Battledress Moths and members of the MMA proudly marched through the streets of Fish Hoek to the Garden of Remembrance where Commander Ricky de Wet led the Parade's Service with Padre Errol Sadler delivering the religious part of the ceremony.



The after-parade function hosted by Battledress Shellhole was a huge success, with everyone who participated in the Fish Hoek parade being invited back to the Shellhole for food and drinks. Helen "The Goose" de Wet, Organiser Extrodinaire, who along with her many willing helpers, ran the after event function with precioned timing.



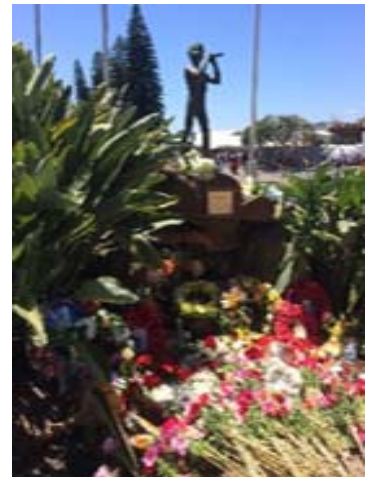
They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old: Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn. At the going down of the sun and in the morning, we will remember them.



The Red Cross War Memorial Children's Hospital Day of Remembrance



We sometimes forget that children are casualties of war, be they from the First World War, or the children of the South West African war, Attending the Red Cross Children's Hospital Remembrance Service on 08 November, it was a reminder that good things do come out of a war situations.



During the war, soldiers donated 2 days pay to build the Red Cross Children's Hospital which would serve the needs of all children, then and today.

Today, the hospital offers a world class faciltiy which is able to treat any number of children's ailments

through paediatric surgery, theatre services, critical care and radiation medicine. Through continued much needed donations and fund-raising the hospital is completeing a state of the art diagnostic centre. Moths of Battledress Shellhole proudly laid a wreath in a multi-faith blessings and prayer service to the sound of "Highland Cathedral" by the Nelson Mandela Artillery Pipes and Drums, and singing by the youth of the Isivunguvungu Band.

City of Cape Town Remembrance Sunday Parade and Hermanus Remembrance Day Commemoration Service -10 November



It was a large turnout by Moths at the City of Cape Town Remembrance Sunday Parade at the Cenotaph in the Market Square in Cape Town. South African Army, Air Force Navy and Military Health Services all participated.

In Hermanus, a large number of FO/MMA joined Battledress Moths in their march to the Cenotaph. Hosted by Seagull Shellhole, Moth Harvey Saayman and Alderman Dudley Coetzee reminded those present of the critical roles played by South African soldiers,

both in North Africa and in Europe during World War II. In particular, amongst those remembered was Squadron Leader Roger Bushell, whose name is not only engraved on the Hermanus Cenotaph, but remembered for his leadership and courage demonstrated by himself and other POWs during the Great Escape .



Poppy Day Collection

Thank you to Sgt. Maj. Neil Bright and Adj. Ian Scott who took charge of the Poppy Day Collection, on behalf of the SA Legion, which took place on Saturday, 09 November. Big thanks to the following Battledress Moths and FOFR who volunteered to collect donations this year at various collection points around Fish Hoek's suburbs:

Moth Donald Grove
FOFR Kate Parr
Moth Ricky Det Wet
Moth Smudge Smith
Moth Ian Scott
FOFR John Lewis
Moth Skatie Fourie
Moth John Lamont

FOFR Pat Coombs
FOFR Gladys Currie
FOFR Bridget Coney
Moth Angelique Visser
Moth Alan Hopveldt
Moth Chris Smith
Moth Mark Wiley
Moth Julie Debham

Moth Vanessa Chambers
Ganges Peter Turton



Brief History of the Poppy

Thanks to **Moth Ena Burnett** for providing the following historical perspective of the Flower of Remembrance:

In 1921, after witnessing the devastation of the battlefields of World War I, a certain Madame Guérin began making the first of millions of poppies to be sold throughout the United States. The money raised from the sales went towards payment for areas in France which had been totally destroyed.

In London, the first poppy collection raised £106 000. Such was the appeal of the poppy and what the money raised from collections could do for injured/disabled servicemen, the Poppy Factory (initially called the Disabled Society) was established a year later in 1922. Major George Howson MC, who himself had been wounded at the Battle of Passchendaele, received a grant of £2000 to set up a small workshop to make the first of the British made poppies. He recalled "I do not think it can be a great success, but it is worth trying .. to give the disabled their chance". The original poppy was designed to be made by someone who had lost the use of a hand. In the

subsequent years the demand for poppies increased and by 1925 the Disabled Society changed its name to the Royal British Legion Poppy Factory, which with a bigger factory was able to employ hundreds of ex Service personnel. Today, the London poppy factory continues, making not only poppies but wreaths and battlefied crosses which ex service men and women, families and friends can plant in plots dedicated to the memory of fallen comrades over a 10 day period around Remembrance Sunday. There are 350 plots of regimental and other associations in the areas between Westminster Abbey and St Margaret's Church. This is where the Fallen, those who served their countries in wars throughout the world, including Rhodesians and South Africans are based. Today there are other associations such as Help for Heroes which play an enormous role in the rehabilitation of ex service personnel, as do the South African Legion and the Memorable Order of Tin Hats. .

Poppy Snippet:

We know that different colours of poppies are now being sold and worn. On this last Poppy Day Collection there were red for the soldiers and purple for animals killed in service. But did you know some soldiers wore a white poppy? These were worn by Pacifists, or Conscientious Objectors.

*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*

by Lt. Col. John McCrae 1915

www.mykarvachauth.com

The Poppy Soldier (Arthur McMullan – 9 Years Old)

A bright, red glow floods the fields,
Where service men fought, so our world
could be healed,
Beautiful flowers, where their bodies once lay
Now dance in the field, throughout the day.

Crimson red petals, scream out the pain,
Four petals represent, four years of men
slain.
Growing amongst corn fields, they stand
side by side
Reminding the world of the sacrifice and
pride.

A dark black centre – a fatal shot.
Yellow speckles – the tears, forget we will
not.
A tall green stalk – the uniform worn
We will always remember, the deaths we will
mourn.

Lest we forget...

"There is no such thing as closure for soldiers who have survived a war. They have an obligation, a sacred duty, to remember those who fell in battle beside them all their days and to bear witness to the insanity that is war."

Remembrance Day
NEVER FORGET...
ALWAYS REMEMBER

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WE WILL REMEMBER THEM



One Thousand Men Are Walking (Joshua Dyer – 14 Years Old)

One thousand men are walking
Walking side by side
Singing songs from home
Walking side by side
Singing songs from home
The spirit as their guide
they walk toward the light milord
they walk towards the sun
they smoke and laugh and smile together

no foes to out run
these men live on forever
in the hearts of those they saved
a nation truly grateful
for the path of peace they paved
they march as friends and comrades
but they do not march for war
step closer to salvation
a tranquil steady corps
the meadows lit with golden beams
a beacon for the brave
the emerald grass untrampled
a reward for what they gave
they dream of those they left behind
and know they dream of them
forever in those poppy fields
there walks one thousand men
(Submitted by Tracey O'Reilly)

High Flight (Pilot Officer John Gillespie Magee, Jr)

Oh! I have slipped the surly bonds of earth
And danced the skies on laughter-silvered wings;
Sunward I've climbed and joined the tumbling mirth
Of sun-split clouds and done a hundred things
You have not dreamed of – wheeled and soared and swung
High in the sun-lit silence. Hov'ring there
I've chased the shouting wind along, and flung
My eager craft through footless halls of air –
Up, up along the delirious burning blue
I've topped the wind-swept heights with easy grace
Where never lark or even eagle flew
And, while with silent lifting mind I've trod
The high untrespassed sanctity of space,
Put out my hand, and touched the face of God.



Saveur Restaurant – Food, Glorious Food

At the Battledress Remembrance Parade after-function the very generous food platters and soft drinks were donated by brothers Rob and Patrick de Wet of Saveur Restaurants in Simon's Town. Rob and Patrick of Saveur and Saveur Café restaurants



are two of Ricky de Wet's children and are always the first to offer donations to Battledress functions.

A Certificate of Appreciation on behalf of Battledress Shellhole was presented to the men at their restaurants.

Thanks also to Chef Gary of Saveur Restaurant who brought a new meaning to food-on-the-go when he had all the foods and drinks ready for collection and delivery to the Shellhole in time for the after-parade function.

Last but not least, thank you to everyone, Moths, FOFR, FO/MMA, friends and family who also made snacks for the function and one to remember.

Watch out for another amazing collaboration between Battledress Shellhole and Saveur Restaurants in the December edition of Battlecry!



Battledress Shellhole Social Events Rugby World Cup 2019

Whether you are a rugby fan or not, you really would have had to have been on another planet if you were not aware that the Rugby World Cup was played out in Japan in November. Congratulations to the World Cup Champions 2019 – the Springboks!



On 02 November, Moths, FOFR, MMA, family and friends braaied and watched an exciting build-up to the final of the Rugby World Cup being played in Japan. Having won a close semi-final against Wales the Springboks held the country in their hearts and hands when they played the big game against England.

The tension was almost too much to bear at the Battledress 'Fan Park' Shellhole as supporters watched the men in the **Green** and

Gold dispel any thoughts about not bring the Cup home. They did not disappoint us. As Handre Pollard kicked the ball out of the field on the 80th minute, celebrations could be heard throughout Fish Hoek and beyond. Congratulations to a well deserved win, **Bokke!** See you at the next RWC in 2023.

Joker Draw

You do not want to miss out on possibly drawing the Joker on Friday 13 December. Superstitious about the date? The jackpot has not been won yet so remember, you



have to be in-it to win-it and tickets can be purchased up until 18h30, before the draw at 19h00. Good luck ticket holders! The Jackpot is almost sitting on R2000 – 50% could be yours!!

Other regular social get-togethers include:

Bingo!

Darts

Music Quiz

General Knowledge Quiz

Moth Morning Market – the next will be held on 07 December.

Weekend braais

Butterflies

The Butterflies, who consist of Moth and Non Moth widows, have had a busy and interesting year, and it's not over yet! Always combining their excursions with learning something new, as well as enjoying the day out.

Visits to galleries, museums, the Berg River Dam, the Silo Hotel at the V & A Waterfront, wine and olive tastings are but a few of the trips the Butterflies have enjoyed this year.

Come rain or shine, as in the case of last month's planned trip being rained out, the erstwhile explorers drove over Red Hill and lunched at the Monocle and Mermaid in Simon's Town. Lunch was by all accounts wonderfully tasty, Plans for the next outing is thought to be the Rupert Art Museum in Stellenbosch.



Who Are You?

Moth Angelique Visser



Originally from the Northern Cape, Angelique made (rail) tracks far and wide to achieve both her academic and life goals. Obtaining a B Nursing from Stellenbosch University and now with many qualifications adding to that, Angelique is currently the Nursing Officer in Charge at the Institute for Maritime Medicine in Simon's Town, Angelique celebrated her 16th year in the SANDF this year and currently holds the rank of Major.

Drawn to the Moths after "some interaction" with the late Moth Ronnie Gilbert, playing a few rounds of Bingo! and some fastidious research into MOTH history and its three ideal practices, Angelique applied to join Battledress Shellhole and was accepted as a Moth.

Married to Henry with two sons, Barend and Herbst, Angelique ensures that people are at the heart of her work and interests.

A keen member of defence sport clubs where she enjoys service shooting and practical shooting, she also enjoys swimming in local tidal pools, as well as walking with her dog around Fish Hoek's suburbs. A keen traveller on land or sea (in 2003 she was on the SAS Drakensberg to Haiti and experienced the crossing of the line ceremony) Angelique and Henry will be travelling to Bali for a belated honeymoon in the New Year. Happy honeymooning with plenty of cocktails, shooters and TEQUILA!

Moth and Social Events in December

Apart from the regular social get-togethers, Battledress Shellhole will be holding its:
River Plate Breakfast on Monday, 16 December (Public Holiday) at 11h00
Christmas Cheer and Christmas Hampers Draw on Saturday 21 December at 13h00



Thanks to everyone who has contributed to the Hampers!

Your generosity has been amazing!

The Christmas hamper is wrapped but you can still buy tickets for R2 per ticket!

If you still wish to donate, we are looking for non-perishable items for our Christmas Charity initiative for Joan's Safe House Hamper

Please place in the barrel and Elf Helen will attend to it! Thank you!

December's Battlecry!

The Rhodesians are coming so send in your memories, photographs and experiences of the never to be forgotten Bush War.

Also in next month's newsletter read all about how with the help of Battledress Shellhole, a local charity's Christmas dream came true. Also, the winners of this year's Christmas Hampers.

Until we meet again,

Vanessa Chambers

Battlecry! Rag Bill
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)

Joker Draw on the second Friday of the month
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.