



**BATTLEDRESS SHELLHOLE**  
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## BATTLECRY! NOVEMBER 2023



**REMEMBRANCE NOVEMBER 2023**

Hello, One and All



The month of November is such an important and memorable month for veterans, be they men and women, black and white, Indian and coloured. Moths, accompanied by a Banner Party, Mothwa, Sea Cadets and Scouts honoured and remembered the Fallen of World Wars and more recently wars in which South Africans and Rhodesians served their countries. November, a month of remembrance of those who paid the ultimate sacrifice, but also of those who survived – but who lived with life changing physical, or mental horrors, finding courage, strength, and faith to continue their lives, sometimes alone, or with loved ones. We **must** and **will** remember them all.

This year, the Parade and Service held on 05 November commenced at 1100, instead of previous sunset parades. There was unanimous agreement for the new timeline, allowing organisers and participants to be at other subsequent Remembrance Services such as the Rhodesia Flame Lily Service at which a number of Battledress Shellhole's Moths attended. A wreath was laid on behalf of the Rhodesia Services in remembrance of those who had lost their lives in the Rhodesia Bush War.

To music provided by the Caledonian Pipe Band and led by Pipe Major Tony Reis, wreaths were laid at the Remembrance Cairn by dignitaries, military and civilian organisations. The Roll of Remembrance was read out by Deputy Commander Moth Julie Denham which included the most recent loss of Lt. Commander Gillian Hector in October of this year whilst on duty in the SA Navy. Padre Moth Errol Sadler led the Service and asked all present, including members of the public, not to forget those who had paid the final sacrifice during battles of previous wars, as well as those who are still fighting on the world's battle fields today.



**Sunset Calls** No calls to Higher Service were made this month. Prayers had been heard.

## Sick Parade & Welfare

Whilst names are not always mentioned, I ask that you keep people and their families in your thoughts and prayers.

It was wonderful to see Moth **Richard Evans** visiting the Shellhole with his brother in law, Kevin Dyer, on a 'flying' visit from the United States. Richard has advised that he will not be having further surgery at this stage and remains in our prayers. Adjutant Moth Iain Groom is awaiting the results of recent tests and Moth Tony Stopford has recently undergone treatment at Groote Schuur Hospital.



**Moth Widows** I am pleased to report all are generally in good health, though I have noticed an increase in the number of walking sticks and walkers being used.

Never feel embarrassed in using walking aids when they help with your balance, getting about and your overall well-being.

A number of Moths have been undergoing physiotherapy treatments for various ailments:

Commander Moth Ricky de Wet.

Moth Sean du Plooy

Moth Kate Parr

Rag Bill Moth Vanessa Chambers

A big Welfare thank you to **Moth Neville Welthagen and his wife, MSS Judy**, for donating 10 kgs of chicken to the “My Father’s House” feeding scheme in Simon’s Town which the Commander and I delivered on their behalf.

Adult incontinent pads were delivered to Nerina, along with magazines and newspapers which are kindly given by Commander Moth Ricky de Wet, Rag Bill Moth Vanessa Chambers, Adjutant Moth Iain Groom and Cheryl Howie.



My thoughts are with everyone under the “Welfare” umbrella. Stay well and stay as healthy as possible.

***The Goose***

## **Birthdays**

### **December**

09 Moth Christo Nel

12 Erna Sadler (wife of Padre Moth Errol Sadler)

18 Danie de Kock (husband of Moth Cindy de Kock)

19 Moth Alan Green

24 FOFR Bridget Coney

28 Moth Pikky Pikker

### **January**

01 Moth John Lamont

05 Moth Neil Bright

06 FOFR Greg Haralambous

10 Commander Moth Ricky de Wet

18 Moth Eric Staine

18 Moth Mike Sellick

20 FOFR Diane Potgieter

21 Moth Leon Haralambous

26 Wendy Kent (Moth Widow)

27 Cheryl Howie (wife of husband Moth Andy Howie)

28 Moth Neville Welthagen



### **Congratulations- It's a Boy!**

Congratulations to Moth Glyn Murrell and his wife Brenda, on becoming great-grandparents for the sixth time, with the birth of Brooklyn David Burgess, born on 12 October 2023. It's now 3 – 3 to the Murrell's families in Australia and New Zealand.



# BATTLEDRESS SHELLHOLE REMEMBRANCE DAY PARADE & SERVICE 2023



**WE WILL REMEMBER THEM**





## RHODESIA FLAME LILY REMEMBRANCE SERVICE 2023



The 05 November Remembrance Service was attended by members of the combined forces of Rhodesia including the Rhodesia Light Infantry, Selous Scouts, Rhodesia Women's Service (the first time a wreath was laid on behalf of the women who died



in the Rhodesia Bush War), Guard Force, BSAP, Special Air Service, and the Rhodesia Air Force. In attendance from Battledress Shellhole were: Deputy Commander Moth Julie Denham, and Moths Vanessa Chambers, Chris Smith, Alan Hopfeldt, Glyn Murrell, Mike Sellick and Bert Sachse.

### We Will Remember Them

#### 11 NOVEMBER Firing of RML 9-inch Gun



On the 11th hour, of the 11<sup>th</sup> day, on the 11<sup>th</sup> month of 1918, the guns in Europe fell silent, marking the end of the Great War, "the war to end all wars." A two-minute silence was held throughout (most) of the world in respect and Remembrance of the Fallen. Commander Moth Ricky De Wet attended the firing of the gun at the Middle North Battery – in between participating in the Poppy Day collection.

#### POPPY DAY COLLECTIONS



As well as November's Remembrance Parades and Services, Poppy Day Collections on behalf of the SA Legion were also well supported by Battledress Moths and FOFR, At various sites in and around Fish Hoek many members of the public gave toward Poppy Day. Collecting at the Vallyland shopping centre were (left) Moths Preston Barnard, Sean du Plooy and Coral-Ann Viviers.

#### RED CROSS HOSPITAL PARADE

Battledress Shellhole's Training Officer Moth John Lamont was a member of the Banner Party attending the Red Cross Hospital War Memorial Remembrance Parade and Service.

Thanks to Regine Lord for taking the photograph of the Banner Party on the day.



# REMEMBRANCE DAY COMMEMORATION SERVICE

## HERMANUS



On 12 November on what had to have been one of the hottest days in Hermanus, members of Battledress Shellhole participated in the Parade and Service at the Cenotaph War Memorial. Several Sea Cadets and Sentries collapsed in the heat of the day. On Parade were Commander Moth Ricky de Wet, Deputy Commander Moth Julie Denham, Moth Charlie Phillipson, Banner Bearer Moth Robbie Abrahamse and Moth Vanessa Chambers.



During the Service, the poem “In Flanders Fields” was for the first time read in Afrikaans and which had originally been translated into Afrikaans for the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Battle of Delville Wood.

### In Vlaandere se Velde

In Vlaand're wieg papawers sag  
Tussen kruise, grag op grag,  
As bakens; en deur dit alles deur  
Die lewerikke tjilpend in dapper vlug,  
Skaars hoorbaar bo die grofgeskut van kanonne.

Ons is die Dooies.  
Dae gelede het ons geleef  
die dagbreek en sonsondergloed beleef.  
Was bemind en was verlief,  
nou lê ons in Vlaandere se velde.

Veg voort my Kind met alle mag;  
neem uit my hand die lig,  
met krag moet jul die fakkeldra, met eer.  
Wie durf Ons dood verloën, onteer –  
ons sal steeds dwaal, ons sal nie slaap,  
solank papawers groei in Vlaandere se velde.

**Thank you to Karen Dickens, wife of Moth Peter Dickens,  
Old Bill of Seagull Shellhole**

### In Flanders Fields

(Lt. Col. John McCrae)



### 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

## HEROES OF OUR TIME



It seems fitting that in this month of Remembrance, there is no single legend of our time but instead, as in any war time, there were military personnel on land, sea and the air, as well as civilians who were Heroes Of Our Time. Whether they were conscripted, volunteers, or were resistance fighters, spies, or members of “Dad’s Army” too old to fight

but who were determined to still be of use, men and women whatever their race, creed or religion, they remain our Heroes.





## MOTH FUND RAISING MORNING MARKET



The last Moth Table Fund Raising Market took place on 04 November and as always raised much needed funds for the Shellhole. On hand were regulars - Moths Ricky de

Wet manning the coffee donation table, Julie Denham who organises the rental of vendor tables and MSS Helen de Wet and Norma Galvin who's tables were sold out within the hour. Well done everyone. The last market for the 2023 year will be on Saturday 02 December. There will always be bargains to be had as well as stocking fillers for the Christmas festive season.

## NOVEMBER JOKER JACKPOT DRAW

There was no Jackpot winner on the last draw of 2023. Potential winners were Moth Julie Denham, Sandy Smit, Joan Farmer and Cheryl Howie. Wine winners were Cheryl and Moth Andy Howie. The Jackpot will be rolled over to Feb since no functions will take place in January 2024, giving everyone a break after the festive season.



## RUGBY WORLD CUP TEAM DRAW WINNERS



Lucky winners of the Rugby World Cup Team Draws were Moth Keith Galvin, Moth Leon Haralambous, Moth Coral-Ann Viviers and FOFR Robby Reel (in his absence, Cheryl Howie held the envelope containing his name) and the RWC Team Draw organiser, Moth Andy Howie. Two remaining envelopes were later given to FOFR Alan Godsiff and his wife, Adrienne and with bated breaths the envelopes were opened .... with Alan winning the last Team Draw prize. Well done everyone for participating in the Team Draw and making it a fun event. Go, Bokke in 2027!

## CHRISTMAS CHEER

Ho! Ho! Ho! It's almost that time of the year and Christmas Cheer is what is definitely needed after a year of hard work, especially by MSS Helen de Wet who's fund raising efforts have been second to none this year, breaking all previous records. Be sure to be at Battledress Shellhole's Christmas Cheer and stand a chance of winning a prized hamper, just in time for Christmas. Any number of prizes can be won, so be sure to be there.



All members of the Shellhole were asked to assist with the building of hampers, (by bringing contents that they would like to win for themselves) be it wine, chocolate or biltong. We have all dug deep(er) into our pockets this year as prices have risen

and affected us on a day to day basis. Never the less, Please remember the spirit of Christmas is in the giving, more than the taking. At the Christmas Cheer here is what will be on offer:



3 dozen hot dogs (Russian/Cheese)

3 dozen hamburgers

They will be on sale on a **first come first serve basis** at the same ridiculously low price of R30 each and served with onions and sauces.

Battledress Shellhole will open at 11h00 and food will be served from 12h30, then followed by the spectacular hampers draw!\*

\*Tickets will still be on sale until half an hour before the draws start. Hampers are on display in the Founder's Room.

Once again we have been lucky to get Father Christmas to stop at the Shellhole and he promises tons of fun to be had. Have you been naughty or nice?

## Male Cancer Awareness Month – MOVEMBER



Speaking of fund raising, those who contributed to the Movember male cancer awareness fund can pat themselves on the back for yet again for helping to draw awareness to male cancer diseases, in particular testicular cancer. Throughout the world, **Movember** is the awareness month for men of all ages to be tested and if need be, treated. Thank you for your support this year.



Below are photos of Moths, FOFR and partners who made **Movember** fun as well as demonstrating perseverance to grow some .... moustaches, of course.



**Battledress  
Shellhole Moths  
& Friends  
Movember  
Class of  
2023**



### **Moth and Social Events In December**

The year will soon be coming to and end with December upon us. The fun does not end and here are some of the Moth and Social functions in December to keep the enjoyment going:

- 01 December Combined General Knowledge and Music Quiz at 1900
- 02 December Morning Market (the last for 2023) at 0730-1100
- 04 Exco and Sub Committee Meeting at 1730
- 07 Moth Monthly Meeting at 1900
- 08 Bingo! at 1900 (Note the date change because of the public holiday the following week)
- 09 Christmas Cheer at 1100 (hamburgers and hotdogs will be served from 1230 on a first come-first served basis)**
- 16 Day of Reconciliation for a Bring and Braai/Breakfast on a skottel at 1100 Onwards
- 24 The Shellhole will be closed.**
- 25 Christmas Day and Boxig Day/Day of Goodwill The Shellhole will be closed.**

That is all for this November's edition of Battlecry! Christmas is just around the corner and whilst we start to celebrate the holidays ahead, keep a firm hand on your wallets, purses and cellphones because it is also euphemistically the season of the redistribution of *your* wealth!

As always, be kind and stay well.

## Vanessa

Moth Vanessa Chambers  
Battlecry! Rag Bill  
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Website: [www.moth.org.za](http://www.moth.org.za)



### FOUNDERS ROOM OPENING TIMES

Wednesday 17h00 -22h00

Friday 17h00-22h00

Saturday 13h00 to 21h00

Sunday and Public Holidays 14h00-19h00

Public Holidays as for Saturdays.

Last rounds are called one hour before closing times,  
or at the Bar Manager's/Barman's discretion.

Closed Good Friday and Christmas Day

Monthly Quiz on the first Friday of the month  
(General Knowledge and Musical Quiz is held on  
alternative 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

Weekend braais

The above are normally held every month except in  
the month of January when the Shellhole functions  
are on a break, but may change, as and when needs be.

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.

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