

Ok ! Contact Contact Dickie Fritz Bull Sheet



April 2017 Vol 6

Dear Dickie Fritz Moths,

Sadly we start our Bull Sheet this month reporting two Sunset calls.

Moth Norman Veitch of Vacant Chair Shellhole answered the Sunset Call on Sunday 16th March 2017 and has gone to meet the Higher Command!! Moth Norman Veitch reached the blessed age of 104 years and was the oldest Moth in our Order. He served as an RAF pilot flying Spitfires during WW 2. Moth Norman also served during the Battle of El Alamein. **WE WILL REMEMBER HIM.**



Moth Norman Veitch



On Monday 24th April 2017, Moth Ashley Collings of Savannah Shellhole answered the sunset call after suffering a heart attack in the early hours of the morning. Ashley served in the BSAP during the Rhodesian Bush War and was on the Rhodesian Forces Memorial Committee. Ashley and his wife Morag often attended the Friday nights at The Ridgeback and he was a great supporter of the various RLI Prayer Meetings and the All Forces Socials. **WE WILL REMEMBER HIM.**

Moth Ashley Collings

The April Shellhole meeting was well supported, with many visitors in attendance. The upcoming elections were explained by Sgt Major Moth Jorge De Jesus and members were encouraged to submit nominations for the Executive Committee.

Moth Pieter Croukamp received his General Service Medal and his Southern Africa Medal which were presented to him by his long-time friend with whom he had served, MOTH Kobus Laubser from Gorgeous Wrecks Shellhole.

Moth Glen Cuthbertson was placed on charge as he complained that the Executive Committee had forgotten to wish him a happy birthday in March. In order to appease Moth Glen, the entire Shellhole sang Happy Birthday to him.



Pieter Croukamp



Moth Glen Cuthbertson

April started off with the RLI Prayer Meeting at the Ridgeback and although the attendance was not as large as normal, it certainly was a great function which was enjoyed by all.

The Dickie Fritz Mothwa Shellhole hosted their Annual Easter Tea on Wednesday 19th April 2017, providing great food and entertainment. Adding to the cheerful ambience of the day, many of the ladies paraded their extravagant Easter Bonnets. It should be noted that even our Pay Bill, Moth Alex McKenzie, joined in on the fun, although it appears he passed on the opportunity to wear his Easter Bonnet and instead indulged in the delectable food.



The month of May sees the Moth Order celebrating it's 90th Anniversary. A huge event to commemorate this auspicious occasion is being hosted in Durban and will run from 4th - 7th May 2017 with a banquet being hosted on Saturday 6th May. The weekend celebrations will culminate in a Full Moth Parade and March Past on Sunday 7th May. All members in the area are encouraged to attend.

For members that are unable to attend the festivities in Durban, the West Rand District and Warrior Shellhole will be hosting a weekend of celebrations. On Saturday 6th May 2017 a Family Day will be hosted with food stalls, fun and games, entertainment and cash bar being available. On Sunday 7th May 2017 a Moth Parade and Wreath Laying Ceremony will take place at 10h30 for 11h30.

The upcoming events at Dickie Fritz in May include the Monthly RLI Prayer which will take place on Saturday 6th May 2017. The RLI will be raising funds by selling homemade Butternut Soup for R10.00 so please support their efforts.

Memorial Walk

Dickie Fritz Shellhole will be hosting the Annual Moth Memorial Walk.

This fun filled event is taking place on Saturday 27th May 2017. Registration starts at 09h00 with the Walk kicking off at 10h00. This year the Walk will be 6kms, which means walking around the Complex 12 times so bring your comfortable takkies.

Egg and Bacon Rolls will be on sale from 08h30 so why not pop in and have breakfast before registering and enjoying the Walk. Remember that stopping off at the Ridgeback to grab a drink along the way is encouraged!!!!

The Floating Trophy will again be awarded to the Association that has the greatest number of members taking part in the Walk.

Medals will be issued to everyone that completes the 6km Walk.



Just a reminder that we are still looking for volunteers to assist us on the day. If you are prepared to help, please advise Adjutant Moth Cheryl Grover accordingly.

MESCA have advised that the Rand Water Board will be installing another water pipe. This will unfortunately affect us at the Complex as Cottage 32 will be demolished and our fence will be moved. The aircraft will also have to be relocated.

This month we will be covering the Transvaal Scottish, a very old, by SA standards, and proud Regiment steeped in tradition. The Transvaal Scottish were the only South African Regiment to have had 3 Battalions serving outside of South Africa during WW2. The Unit holds 17 Battle Honours and marches to Athol Highlanders.

The Regiment was raised after the Boer War during December 1902, making it the second oldest unit raised in the Transvaal, with the Imperial Light Horse being the oldest. Permission was granted by the Duke of Athol to wear the Murray of Athol tartan which was worn by his own Regiment, the Athol Highlanders. Pipers wear the Murray of Tillibardine. They first saw action during the Bambata Rebellion in 1906 and later in the 1914 Rebellion.

At the outbreak of WW1 the 1st Battalion was sent to South West Africa and a second battalion raised. After the conclusion of the GSWA Campaign the 2nd Battalion was disbanded. The Regiment was reformed and B and C companies formed part of the 4th SA Infantry Brigade which suffered such heavy losses at the Battle of Delville Wood. Elements of the 1st Battalion formed part of the Scottish Company in the SA 9th Infantry Brigade which served in German East Africa. There was more internal action for the Regiment during the 1922 Rand Rebellion against striking miners. Fighting was heavy, resulting in the Transvaal Scottish suffering several casualties, including some members being killed.

During 1939 the 2nd Battalion was reformed and a 3rd Battalion raised, with most of the recruits coming from the East Rand. When war broke out the 1st Battalion formed part of the 1st SA Infantry Brigade and saw distinguished service in East Africa and Abyssinia. At the conclusion of that campaign the 1st Battalion moved to Mesa Matruth in Egypt. They were heavily involved in Operation Crusader. The 2nd Battalion was at El Alamein and the 3rd Battalion was virtually wiped out at the Battle of Sidi Rezegh. Members of the Transvaal Scottish, along with Duke of Edinburgh's Rifles and Rand Light Infantry, formed the DSR and served in Italy.



After WW2 the 1st and 2nd Battalions were infantry regiments and the 3rd Battalion became artillery, 7 Medium Regiment 3TS. The 1st and 2nd Battalions merged into one regiment and the 3rd TS were disbanded to become Regiment Laeveld. During the 1970's the two Battalions were separated again and the old 7 Medium Regiment reformed. The Regiments all saw operational duty on the SWA border and in Angola. The 2nd Battalion was disbanded in the 1990's and the 7 Medium Regiment amalgamated into the Transvaal Horse Artillery. The Transvaal Scottish now forms part on the SANDF Reserve Force but their future seems to be uncertain.

Yours under the Tin Hat.

Leon and Bruce

