



CYBER SHELLHOLE

MEMORABLE ORDER of TIN HATS

Founded in 1927

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CYBER SHELLHOLE YEAR-END REPORT, June 2018.

Total Members: 45 (plus 2 x Administrators)
Members in Process: 4 (3 off awaiting documentation and 1 soon to transfer into Cyber)
Average Age: 61,87 years.

Recruiting

Membership took a static pause, this past year, partly due to the Administrators taking their collective “eye off the ball”, but all is back on track, with renewed interest from parties across the globe. Our latest potential recruits are based in Texas USA, Kilkenny Ireland and a third somewhere in Australia. An imminent transferee from the Western Cape is looking to relocate to Warmbaths in the near future. A few other enquiries for membership to Cyber have been received during the course of the year but these have been re-directed to formal Shellholes operating in their residential area.

One member, during this past year, has been taken off the Rolls, having indicated that he is no longer interested in the Order. The Shellhole is in the process of updating records (ID's) but this has proved – for some reason – an interesting task to get required responses!

For interest: Stats (attached) show the continued increase in membership to the Order through Cyber Shellhole, while the Average Age has increased by 5,27 years since November 2011 which, although to be expected, is a less-than 1-year increment p.a.

South African veterans make up the greatest majority – 28 of which served in the S.A. Army – while Rhodesian veterans account for 8 members of the total.

The recently-discussed plan to bring enough members into Cyber, with a view to starting a new Shellhole/Outpost in Kilkenny Ireland, has stalled for the time being. There are similar ideas about the potential for a new unit in the UK's Preston/Blackburn area. These are projects for concentration in the coming financial year.

Finances

Capitation & Subscription Fees

It remains a difficult admin issue to ensure prompt payment of subs. Invoices have been sent and reminders via FaceBook have been logged. While the Order hasn't actually “lost” money, either from capitation fees payable or from stores issued, it remains a concern.

With Capitation fees for 2018/19 set at **ZAR320.00**, Cyber's Subscriptions will also follow suit. Many members pay their dues via “PayPal” into Moth Meyer's personal account – especially those based in the UK – and who then transfers the subs into the GHQ bank account. The small transfer fee will cover his personal costs as applicable. Other members whose subs are paid directly to GHQ will thus directly benefit GHQ, and whatever surplus remains (if any) will continue to be transferred to the Warriors Gate maintenance account.

The once-off Entrance fee has been revised to **ZAR200.00** (unless costs dictate otherwise). This amount is agreed upon so that no out-of-pocket expenses are incurred through postage. This fee, besides Postage, includes the cost of a new members' Tin Hat, membership card, attestation certificate and blazer badge. The amount above is usually more than is required.

Stores

“Branch Stock”, consisting of a small amount of Tin Hats, blazer badges, ties, berets and beret-badges, is held by myself for posting to members where required. Draw-off is similarly recorded to suit. This stock has been written off of GHQ’s books for ease of management.

Communication

This point features strongly with Cyber members simply due to the uniqueness of the unit. Members continue to use FaceBook in both open and personal forums, and e-mails between individuals or in group format is common. Occasional use of WhatsApp and Skype exists and, rarely, there is some personal interaction. We find especially that the members in the UK are much in contact with each other.

Moth Meyer remains involved with communication on FaceBook.

Footprint

Most members are very keen to “fly the MOTH flag” in their various regions and, through membership via Cyber Shellhole, these Moths have represented the Order at Commemoration services all over the world, and Floral Tributes have been laid o.b.o. the Shellhole, including at the Cenotaphs in both London and Edinburgh, Kilkenny Cathedral, the Menin Gate, the Cenotaphs in Sydney and Perth, and, of course, at some services in South Africa.

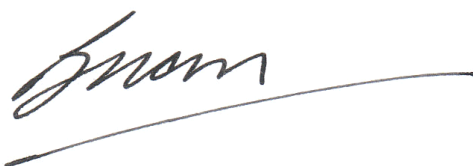
Summary

It remains a difficult task to promote the Order from afar. Communications, we would hope, keep the members informed regarding news within the MOTH and about the Shellhole, but the members’ knowledge of the Order and its Workings cannot be monitored with much effect.

There has been a marked increase in the amount of new Veteran Groups being set up – not only of ex-SADF origin but also of overseas services – and to which a substantial number of potential members have subscribed. In the UK, we have seen growth in the SA Legion UK, the SADF Association and also affiliation to Royal British Legion and Help for Heroes. In Australasia, as we are well aware, the RSL and RSA remain very strong. SAMVOA has a footprint in most centres. These factors make recruitment quite difficult.

Many current members of Cyber Shellhole have actually been Moths before, prior to their move to “greener pastures”.

The focus is to push the “Each One Reach One” idea to existing membership on the understanding that Ex-Pats tend to gather together.

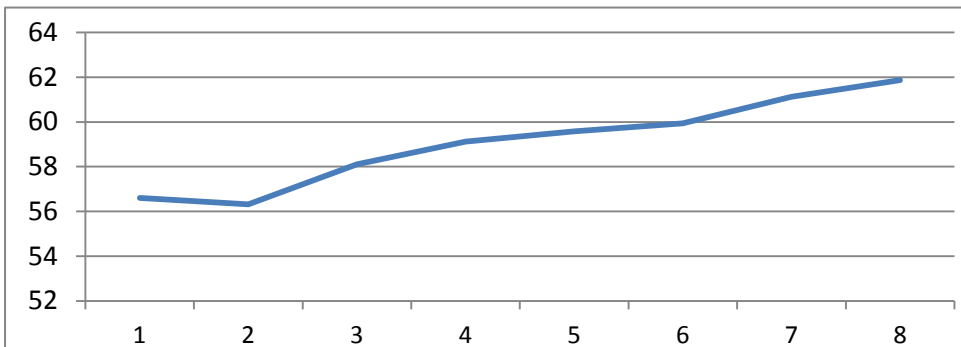
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'B. Porter', with a long horizontal line extending to the right underneath it.

BRIAN PORTER

Old Bill, Cyber Shellhole

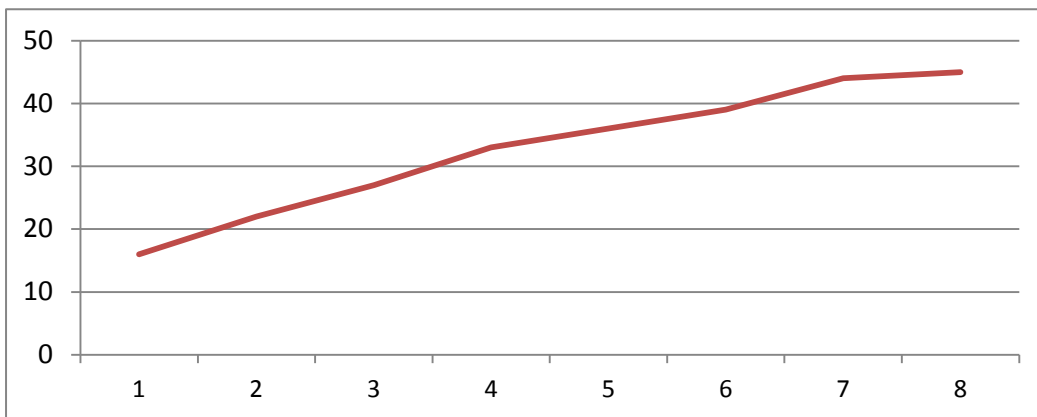
AVERAGE AGE (Nov 2011 to June 2018)

Nov	Aug	Aug	Aug	Aug	Aug	June	June
2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
56.6	56.32	58.1	59.12	59.58	59.93	61.13	61.87



MEMBERSHIP (Nov. 2011 to June 2018)

Nov	Aug	Aug	Aug	Aug	Aug	June	June
2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
16	22	27	33	36	39	44	45



Membership Military Service

SADF/SANDF				SA Police	Rhodesian Forces		Other	Unknown
Army	Air Force	Navy	Medics		Army	BSAP	Royal Navy	
28	2	1	1	1	4	4	1	3

