

BATTLEDRESS

SHELLHOLE



We Will Remember Them...

CENTRAL CIRCLE, FISH HOEK

PO BOX 22033 FISH HOEK 7974
Email battledress.shellhole@gmail.com



BATTLECRY AUGUST 2024

Greetings from your Ragbill

Welcome to the New MOTH Year and what a new beginning its been; as you will see by the size of the newsletter. We have bid a fond farewell to Moth Vanessa who has been faithfully bringing us the monthly newsletter. I will strive to do her proud; following the sterling example she has set as she passes the torch and takes some well earned rest from her scribe duties. I am still learning the ropes but am receiving a lot of kind advice and support in my new role. I hope you enjoy this issue and the many more to come in the future.

Regards
Mike W
Battledress Ragbill



Thank you Vanessa!

Sunset Calls to Service

The following members have continued their journey to be reunited with their loved ones.



We will remember them!



Battledress
Widow Jean
Curtis on
Monday
afternoon 12th
August 2024



Friend of the
Founders
Room
member
Diane
Potgieter 8th
August 2024

INFIRMARY



Please hold the following Moths and Moth family in your thoughts and prayers:

Tony Stopford

Richard Evans

John Lamont

Neil Bright

Bert Sache

Ricky De Wet underwent a hernia operation at long last, which he has put off for 2 years....

ON THE MEND

The following Moth and Moth Family members are on the road to recovery

Daphne Smith (at 94!)

Nadia Sadler

Vin York

John Lewis

Ros Barnett



Battledress Welfare Acts



Battledress currently contribute to Meals on Wheels, St. Luke's Hospice on a monthly basis and MESCA on a quarterly basis.

Our members deliver books and magazines to Nerina Gardens Retirement Home every second week.

Newspapers are delivered to H.M.S. Ganges for welfare of animals

Toiletries and food for South African Sea Cadets TS (Training Ship) Woltemade.

Welfare visits to ailing Moths and Moths in hospital or at their private residences.

This includes Moth Spouses, Widows and Partners are contacted regularly by MSS Helen de Wet (Welfare Officer) and Padre Moth Errol Sadler in order to assist where necessary



The Goose is on the Loose!

While Ricky is reluctantly on the mend, Helen De Wet has excitedly taken control of the wheel and is looking to break new records over both land and air. **This is a public warning.**



Battledress AGM August 2024

An eventful AGM that signaled the beginning of the new MOTH year as many members and friends were thanked for their good comradeship. Commander Ricky De Wet graciously passed the torch after successfully handling the reigns of leadership for the past 9 years. I personally am proud to have been inducted by him and am grateful that both Ricky and Helen are willing to traverse the vast divide from their new home to their other forever home, Battledress.





Under New Management

Battledress is now under the guidance of Commander Julie Denham and Deputy Commander Colin Faure. If the past month is anything to go by, then its safe to say that the future remains in good hands.



Memorial Service for Col Jan Breytenbach



On the 7th of August, Battledress was proud to host a memorial service for the legendary warrior that was Colonel Jan Dirk Breytenbach (14 July 1932 - 16 June 2024) where moving tributes were paid to his incredible career and contributions. A summary of which is as follows:

1950: Joined the SA Army and awarded the sword of honor in 1953, then served in armored cars

1955: Joined the Royal Navy Fleet Air Arm and served as a Sea Vixen Navigator during the 1956 Suez Crisis

Returned to SA and transferred to 1 Parachute Battalion, becoming a parachute instructor

1964: Attended the officers course at the US Airborne Forces School, Fort Benning.

1966: Helped plan and participated in Operation Blou Wildebeest at Ongumlungashe





1967: Convinced Gen WP Louw that SA needed something equivalent to the SAS

1968: Presented the first "Infantry Specialist Course" (the selection for special forces)

1969: Promoted to Major and transferred to SWA Command Training Division

1969: Deployed to Biafra with 3 others paratroopers to assist with training and led guerrillas behind Nigerian lines. Promoted to Commandant.

1970: Began training as the 'Dirty Dozen' at Oudtshoorn

1971: Qualified for free fall at age 39

1972: Operation Starlight, the first maritime SF operation

1974: Transferred to Army HQ

1975: Sent to Angola to train FNLA elements which became Bravo Group that he led during Operation Savannah in 1975/76

1976: Bravo becomes 32 Battalion, soon the best light infantry units in the world

1978: Staff Course and promotion to Colonel

1978: Founded 44 Parachute Brigade, leading the airborne attack at Cassinga during Operation Reindeer, thereafter SSO Parachute Operations at Army HQ and SSO Ops at North en Transvaal Command

1980: Command of 44 Para Bde; established the pathfinder concept

1983: Founded the SADF Guerrilla School

1987: A well earned retirement



Christmas Cheer Donation Requests



We are fast approaching the end of the year.
So open your hearts for Christmas Cheer!
Donations for the Xmas hampers is what we need,
Give what you can is all we plead.
Check your pantries and groceries and take a pick
and do it with a smile for old St Nick.

A original work by yours truly, but this request is on behalf of the Playbill and Battle Axes.

CWPD AGM August 2024

Images of the event shown in photos provided by Moth Tony Reis



All in attendance



The new top table

The new provincial looks somewhat familiar...why it's our former commander Ricky De Wet!, thanks to Helen for this image.



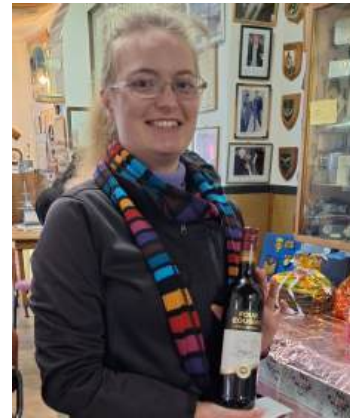
Our Award for Mutual Help

Battledress were awarded with a Certificate of Commendation for Mutual Help in recognition of the commendable standard our Shellhole has achieved and maintained in the field of Mutual Help during the year 2023/2024. The MOTH order has an obligation to 'Lighten the Burden' of those less fortunate than ourselves by the MOTH practice of Mutual Help.



Womens Day Celebrations

On the 9th of August Battledress held a successful and fun filled tribute to Women worldwide. Amazing raffles and prizes were won and we had some some unexpected visitors in attendance. Singles on the prowl were hard pressed to make a choice from the bevy of beauties that were on display. A big thank you to Playbill Coral-Ann and our Battle Axes for an amazing and successful day and a thank you to Moth Cindy de Kock for the photos.



Making the day even more special was a surprise visit by Chockies son, Ireland Rugbys Rob Herring. As gracious in person as he is skilled on the field. The pride of Ulster and his father.



AUGUST PARADES

17/08 Saturday 61 Mech Veterans Association, Soetendaal, Wellington. Attended by Moths Julie, Colin (Battledress Standard bearer), Charlie (MOTH Standard bearer), Robby & Wayne (Robby's brother). Commander Julie laid a wreath on behalf of Battledress Shellhole



18/08 Sunday Bomb Alley Annual War Commemoration Service. Attended by Moths Julie, Chris, Ricky, Colin (Battledress Standard bearer), Charlie and MSS Helen. Commander Julie laid a wreath on behalf of Battledress Shellhole



With thanks and acknowledgements to Commander Julie Denham

The August Market

Thank you to Moth Coral-Ann for all her successful efforts in running a great market and a special thanks you to Ian Groom for running the coffee stand. Be sure to check out the next morning market on Saturday the 5th of October for great bargains. All donations are always wanted and gratefully accepted.



Rugby Saturday 17 August – SA vs AUS

Another thank you to Playbill Coral-Ann and the Battle Axes for their culinary skills in providing bacon and egg rolls for sale. It was well supported and made the delicious victory over Australia all the sweeter. Be sure to drop by the Shellhole this weekend (Saturday the 7th) for boerewors rolls and kiwi beatings.

Darts and Bingo

Two events which are gaining more and more players and popularity are darts and bingo, for friendly competition and great prizes be sure not to miss either of these events. We cannot guarantee you will win, but you are guaranteed to have lots of fun in a welcoming environment. The next social bingo date is the 20th of September and Darts will be on the 28th of September.

Please come and join us!



Joker Draw!

Still no winner! As we stare longingly at the numbers nearing four thousand, there is no need to dream, just be in it to win it and you will finally be able to pay off those traffic fines! The next draw is on the 13th of September...lucky Friday!



MEALS ON WHEELS



"Moth Kate Parr and Nicole Stopford started cooking together about 18 months ago and have now been joined by Ros, John and Adrienne. Moth Tony Stopford has been doing deliveries for about 18 months. The idea of it is to cook a nutritional meal on a budget for 25 lucky recipients 3 times a week. Our team cooks once a month. All voluntary. Been running for about 40 years in Fish Hoek. We are given a budget to cook from and we plan and execute our cook for the month."



Nicole Stopford

Champions of care and nutrition



"Friday's meal - Chunky vegetable soup with bacon; Moroccan pork tagine with fruit and rice; sweet parsley carrots; peas; malva pudding with custard. And a naartjie"

Man I'm hungry now.

Donations Needed for Heritage Day Hampers

- Spices
- Marinade
- Chips
- Tin of baked beans
- Tin of sweetcorn
- Pickled onions
- Gherkins
- Anything you feel would make a great braai hamper!



We are looking to fill up some hampers for some lucky winners. R5 a ticket, the winners of which will be drawn on Heritage Day (Sept 24th)

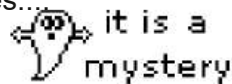
BATTLE AXES

The Battle Axes are a team of women from the Shellhole that have been formed to support the Shellhole in our fund raising efforts. Working closely with Coral-Ann, they underpin and provide support and ideas to raise funds and enhance the Shellhole experience. Any ladies who would like to join are welcome to and they can contact Coral-Ann at 0766822244 to request to be added to the group



Honorary Battle Axe Member: Neil Bright

On the 9th of August, Womens Day, Moth Neil Bright became the proud...mother, to a set of twins. Perhaps not the -best- mother as the location of the twins remains a mystery at the time of this writing. As does the identity of the father, however there are several viable candidates...



Moth Photo Records

I have been tasked with collecting images of my fellow Moths in uniform, a headshot and full body (again, in uniform please) so many can expect to be harassed in the near future. This is in aid of an upcoming special feature we are going to be introducing to Battledress



An August From the Past....

August 2, 1990 - The Iraqi army invaded Kuwait amid claims that Kuwait threatened Iraq's economic existence by overproducing oil and driving prices down on the world market. An Iraqi military government was then installed in Kuwait which was annexed by Iraq on the claim that Kuwait was historically part of Iraq. This resulted in Desert Shield, the massive Allied military buildup, and later the 100-hour war against Iraq, Desert Storm.



U.S. Army Military Police guard their checkpoint along a convoy route in the Saudi desert, Jan. 20, 1991. The MP's said they wrote the name of their favorite record album on the cinder block wall.

Upcoming Birthdays for September

10 September Denise Lamont
(Spouse of Moth John Lamont)



13 September Trevor Simpson
(Partner of FOFR Gladys Currie)

18 September Gregory Dismore

20 September Chris Smith

27 September Colin Faure

28 September Richard Evans

"A very special mention must be made for Moth Widow Patricia Smith who turned 80 on the 28th of August. Here is to the next 80 years!"



Their Finest Hour

Moths and Social Events in August*

*days and times, unless otherwise advised.

2nd September Exco and Sub Committee meeting 17:30

5th September Moth Meeting 19:00

6th September Music Quiz

7th September Boerie Rolls and Rugby (SA vs NZ)

13th September Joker Draw

15th September Battle of Britain Service 10:30

20th September Social Bingo

24th September Heritage Day/Braai Day at the Shellhole

28th September Darts

30th September Exco and Sub Committee meeting 17:30

FOUNDERS ROOM HOURS

Wednesday 17:00 - 22:00

Friday 17:00 - 23:00

Saturday 14:00- 23:00

Public Holidays 14:00 - 22:00

Founders room hours will be adjusted for sporting events as per the authority of the exco committee and bar management.

That is it for this Battlecry, which I hope to be the first of many with your support. Some things may change along the way, but I will do my best to make sure this remains the newsletter that you all know and love.

Best wishes,

MIKE

Battlecry! Rag Bill

Moth Mike Wolmarans

Email: battledressragbill@gmail.com

Website: www.moth.org.za



"I feel like an important island in the Pacific."

From November 5, 1943