



THE BUGLE



VOLUME 2 2025

Christmas edition 2025

A Band Reunion- Monte Stanco

The Newcastle High school band, under the leadership of Moth Jan Kooyman, always supported the Moths in all their parades. This band won the South Africa championships in 1995 and the band members decided to hold a 30 year reunion on the 4th October 2025 at the Monte Stanco Shellhole in Newcastle. Trumpeter Dave Coleman (who has served in the British Army for the past 24 years and is now a Captain) and Paul Gillott (now living in Germany) started planning the reunion at the beginning of 2025 and were able to contact 14 old members to invite them to attend. Some of them travelled from the Cape and one even flew in from Mauritius.



A few musical instruments were borrowed from the High School, and to the surprise of all, some of the band members were still able to play a few tunes which they had last played 30 years ago. Dave Coleman often assisted the Monte Stanco Moths by sounding the Last Post and Revellie at Moth funerals. In the second photo, we have Moth Jan

Kooyman, the retired band master, seated in the front row in the middle.



Dundee-born war hero commemorated for being last man to walk out of Delville Wood

A former Dundee High School pupil, Captain Garnet George Green, holds the rare distinction of being the last man to leave the trenches at Delville Wood during one of World War I's most harrowing battles.

His bravery and that of thousands of other South African troops were remembered at the Endumeni Isandlwana Moth Shellhole, where a parade was held and a wreath laid in memory of those who made the ultimate sacrifice.

Painstaking research by the late Pat Rundgren shed light on the remarkable life and sacrifice of Captain Green, who was born in Dundee in 1889.

A proud product of Dundee High School, which lost 20 old boys and three staff members in the Great War, Green's military journey began with the Natal Carbineers. He fought in the Bambatha Rebellion of 1906, the South West Africa campaign in 1914-15, and later in Egypt against the Senussi forces.

As a second lieutenant in 'C' Company of the 3rd South African Infantry, Green endured the nightmare that was Delville Wood.

Ordered to hold the line at all costs, South African troops entered the wood on July 15, 1916. When relief arrived five days later, only 18 officers and 702 men remained of the 3155 who had gone in.

On July 20, Green was the last man to emerge from the trench.

Brigadier-General Tanner recommended him for the Distinguished Service Order.

Promoted to captain in January 1918, Green continued to lead from the front.

Tragically, he was killed in action on March 22, 1918, at Gauche Wood while resisting a German advance.

Eyewitnesses described his leadership as 'unobtrusive and unpretentious', and noted that 'he was universally popular'.

The Moths used the opportunity to unveil the new braai area adorned in military-style camouflage paint.

A plaque was unveiled in a salute to those who served in the Border War (1966-1989) and whose contribution is often overlooked. The Moth Shellhole is open to visitors every Friday evening from 17:30



Moths Graham Morgan, Pierre Bezuidenhout, Cheryl Rundgren, Owen Mulhatton (obscured), Alex Donaldson and Tony Cross.

A story of yesteryear.....

Sharing a story of yesteryear, before the memory fades and its lost to history.

This is a first-hand account of what I as a young lad remember from the mid 60's.

Back ground: My paternal grandfather stayed in the Woodstock area of Cape Town, while my grandmother (mothers' side) lived very near the Ysterplaat Airbase on the corner of Ysterplaat and Fairbairn Street, not very far from my parents who also lived in the suburb of Brooklyn.

My grandfather spent the last years of the war as a Prisoner of War (#9396) and was released on the 17 May 1945, hence his association with the M.O.T.H



TOP SECRET
M.I. 9 (Gen)
MIS-X

GENERAL QUESTIONNAIRE PART II. TOP SECRET.

1. No. 9396 RANK Gen. Dir. SURNAME Van Tonder
CHRISTIAN NAMES Cornelius Johannes Christman

2. LECTURES before Capture:
(a) Were you lectured in your unit on how to behave in the event of capture?
(State where, when and by whom.)
M

(b) Were you lectured on escape and evasion? (State where, when and by whom.)
M

4. ESCAPES attempted:
Did you make any attempt or partly successful escapes? (Give details of each attempt separately, stating where, when, method employed, names of your companions, where and when recaptured and by whom. Were you physically fit? What happened to your companions?)
I was for 17 days in the cell of the
M.O.T.H.

SECURITY UNDERTAKING.

I fully realize that all information relating to the matters covered by the questions in Part II. are of a highly secret and official nature.
I have had explained to me and fully understood that under Defence Regulations or U.S.A.R. 280-2 I am forbidden to publish or communicate any information concerning these matters.

Date 17 May 1945
Signature Gen. Tonder.

From what I can remember, both my father and grandfather used to frequent MOTH meetings in the Maitland Town Hall. I guess there used to be lots of harmony, fun and TC.

I distinctly remember this label, being the cause of my mother's "vocal disgusts", after one of my father's returns from a MOTH meeting.

Tommy Rendle VC Shellhole, received their charter on 20 October 1946 and in the early years, MOTH meetings took place in the Maitland Town Hall, Maitland Hotel or somewhere in the Brooklyn area.

Thanks to OB Robert Dixon for supplying, Tommy Rendle VC's 75th anniversary newsletter, which adds value to this story.



Story two, also set in the mid 60's.

I used to travel to school which was in in Maitland, on one of the City Tramways busses, those green & cream, double decker ones, with the entry / exit an "open landing" at back.

One morning on the bus, there was hushed stories about all the "ducktails", wearing hats, caps and beanies.

I was aware of, the "ducktails" but perhaps too innocent to have paid more attention.

By eavesdropping on my parents and their friends' conversations, I later learnt that, a group of airbase guys (Ysterplaat) had cornered a number of the "ducktails" and had cut off their "ducktails".

In turn, the "ducktails" felt humiliated and refused to go to work.

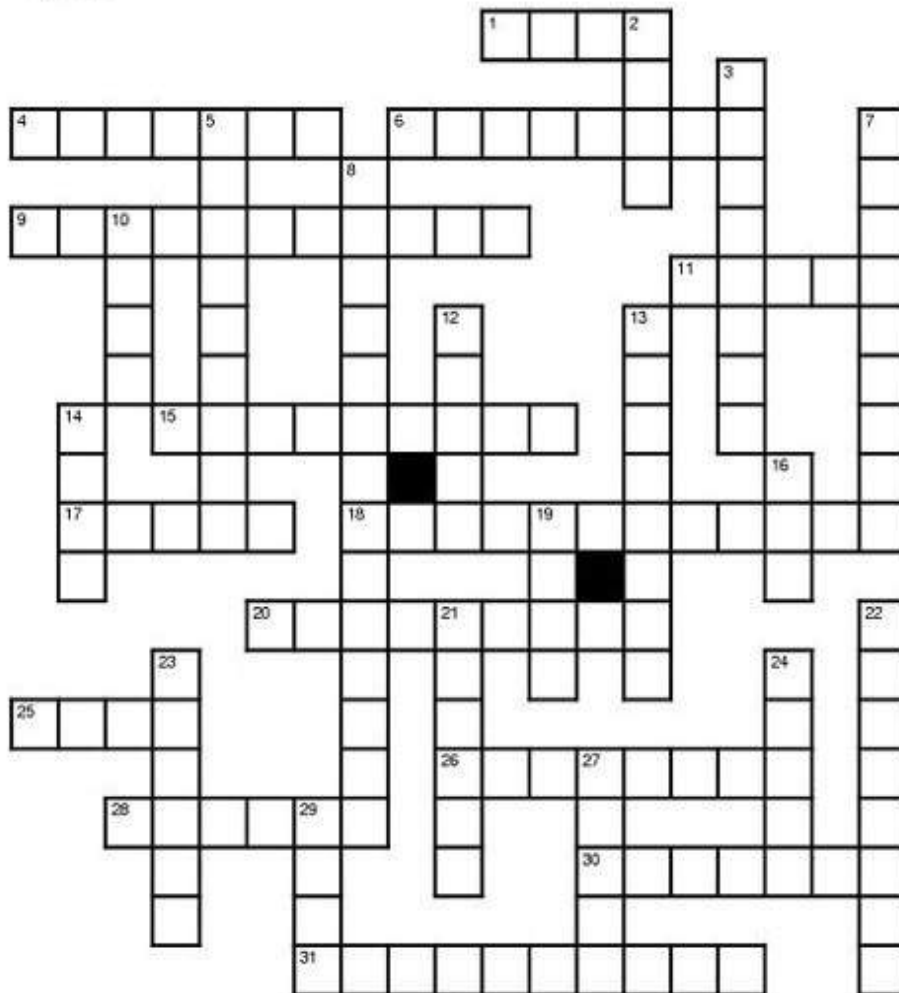
Written by Moth Anthony v Tonder



PUZZLE TIME



Christmas Crossword



Merry Christmas!

Across

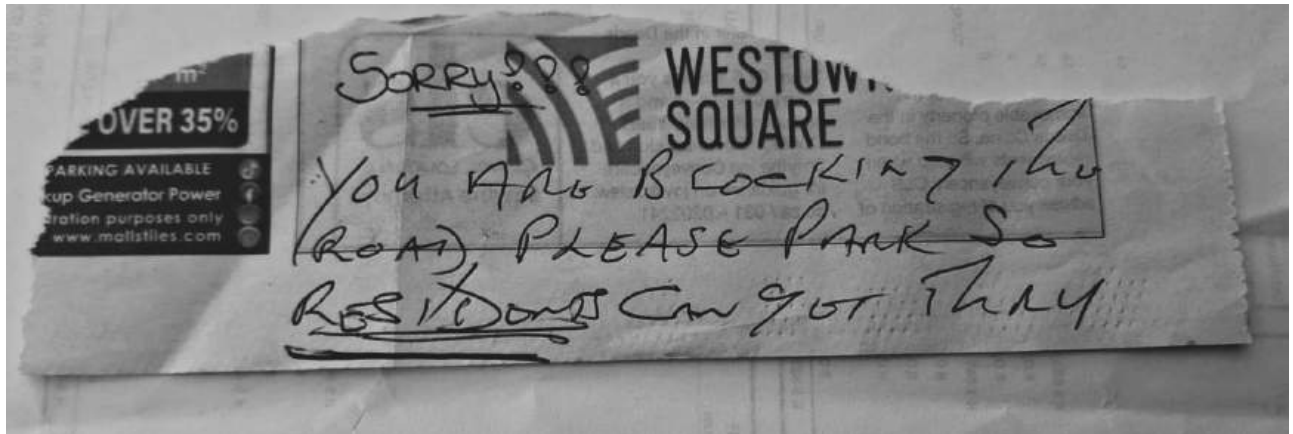
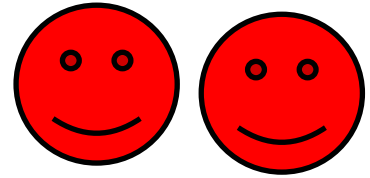
1. Another word for present.
4. Santa's door?
6. Animals that pull Santa's sleigh.
9. What people put on their Christmas tree.
11. Something on Santa's face.
15. The day after Christmas.
17. Santa's helpers.
18. The day before Christmas.
20. A piece of snow.
25. What Santa gives to bad girls and boys.
26. A sock that hangs by the chimney.
28. People put these bright things on there house.
30. A reindeer with a red nose.
31. A jolly man in a red suit with a beard.

Down

2. Something people decorate.
3. What people give each other.
5. Where Santa's workshop is located.
7. A striped Christmas treat.
8. Drink and food left for Santa.
10. Something people send to each other to say 'Merry Christmas'.
12. The presents are usually _____ the tree.
13. The month of Christmas.
14. Look at a present before you should.
16. The color of Santa's suit.
19. A common decoration for the top of the tree.
21. A famous snowman.
22. The place where Santa makes toys.
23. Santa's car?
24. A common decoration for the top of the tree.
27. A Christmas song.
29. What Santa gives to good girls and boys.



Bartel road funnies.....



When parking the car becomes a problem , sometimes the car is just too BIG..... Sorry.

A Christmas message from PMC.....



May the light of the new year guide you to peace and contentment, and may your path be blessed with wisdom and faith in 2026

Brian and Claudia



Christmas party fun.....at Twilight red tab Shellhole

Twilight Red Tab Shellhole held our annual dinner on 25th October 2025. This is our yearly fund raising function and was attended by many MOTH from all over the province.

The evening started with a delicious three-course meal which was catered for by Bidvest Catering, and followed by our famous Tombola draw, with over 100 tombola prizes to be won.

At the end of the evening, all the table décor was sold off and funds were donated to our feeding fund – Guardian Angels -which is managed by Twilight Red Tab.

Big thank you to everyone who attended and made this year a great success.



Oasis shellhole potjie 2025.....

This event is held annually as part of the shellholes efforts to raise money for their cottage schemes .



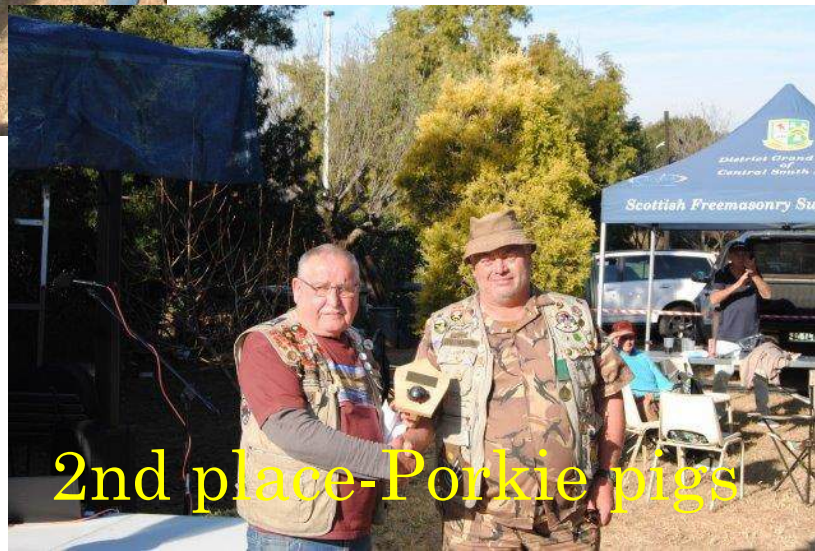
The jnr winners- the scouts



1st place-the Confederates

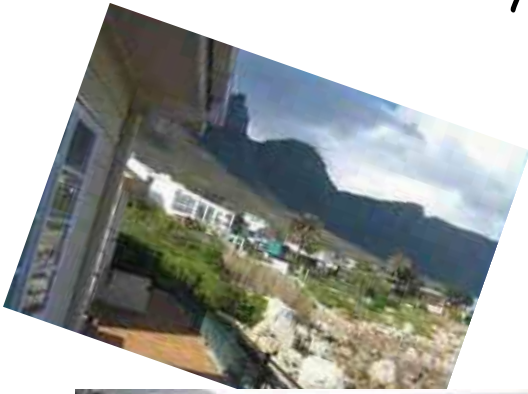


3rd place—Kimitri



2nd place-Porkie pigs

THE CLASSIFIEDS.....



TIME IS RUNNING OUT... BOOK NOW

WANT TO GO ON HOLIDAY

BAKOVEN COTTAGES

WESTERN CAPE

CONTACT : 064 4552857

or

EMAIL

bookings@mothbakoven.co.za

VISIT THE MOTH WEBSITE TO DOWNLOAD THE APPLICATION FORM.

www.moth.org.za

Sappersglen retirement village.....

Located in Uvongo, Lower South Coast KZN, just 1.8km from the swimming Beach, offers 1,2, and 3 bedroom cottages with a garage in secure village. It has 24 units and a hall, laibrary and braai, both indoor and outdoor. A kitchen facility for use by residents for Friday night happy hour and private Functions.

Contact Sapper Brian Smith 0824988654 or sappersglen@gmail.com

