



## QUEENSLAND NEWSLETTER NOVEMBER 2011

### OFC

The October gathering did not take place due to the proximity of the Annual Lunch.

The November meeting took place at Toscani's Restaurant, Garden City, on the 16<sup>th</sup> November 2011. Present were 4727 Mike Edden 6278 Gerry Dyer, 6303 Peter Nortje, 6604 John Gold, 6969 Billy Budd, 7012 Mike King, 7432 Will Keys 28014Z Mike Hayes and Goofy Lawrence. Also present was 6632 Gerry Paxton, a member of the UK Branch, visiting family relatives in Caloundra, some 100 + kms from Logan City, but made the effort to join us for the morning. As well as chatting about some interesting anecdotes, Gerry invited the gathering to join him for a beer, but we were all conscious of the strict drink/driving laws in Australia, so there were limited takers. However, when Gerry went to pay for the beers he very generously paid for the coffees which everyone had. For which many thanks.

5450 Dick Howlett had sent his apologies from his ocean cruise ship, which was only docking at Brisbane that day, as did 5757 Ian Milton, via Peter Nortje, as he is still having health problems. We were sorry to have missed him, as he is coming up to his 80<sup>th</sup> birthday and will become the second Octogenarian in the members.

The usual trivia was discussed, but Mike King took the opportunity to promote his memoirs, "Michael John – Reflections" which he had a number of copies for sale at \$30. As the cost to him was \$33 this is a very generous offer and members who might be interested in reading a very interesting career should contact Mike direct.

I discussed my own project with Mike, as he had kindly edited my memoirs "Lockhart" and brought him up to date that the agent printing the book "Documents on Demand" had yet to send me the edited copy "Rhodesia. Our war against terrorism" We are visiting the printer on the 24<sup>th</sup>, in Mike and Ginny's new car, when Mike hopes to deliver his novel then we are going off to lunch to thank him for editing my books.

Mike King, is still engaged in completing his first novel and I recommended a book "Africa Dawn", author Tony Park, which is available at most libraries, which covers Rhino conservation and poaching at a Tourist Resort in the Vumba Mountains in the post-Mugabe independence era. It also lightly touches on that government's corrupt exploitation of diamonds which, if properly accounted for,

would comfortably pay the pensions of Rhodesian/Zimbabwean pensioners living in and outside of Zimbabwe.

It is noteworthy that Billy Budd manages to join us at these coffee mornings for even though he has moved to Noosa, he still has well over 100kms each way to travel on his motorcycle.

It's also time to make mention that Gerry Dyer acts as my "Fairy Godfather" making sure that if I have any serious travelling to do he and Wendy always offer to take me and Rosemary.

#### NJUZI AND THE RIVER PEOPLE

In view of the cost, I still have this project on hold to see if any publishers would be willing to take it on, perhaps in disc form.

#### LOCAL POLITICS

Will Keys further brought us up to date on his connections with Bob Katter's Party. He has also spent some time recently researching the problems relating to the international financial crisis and from personal experience has some interesting views. He would certainly make a good local politician!

#### HOLIDAY

Mike Hayes brought us up to date with his holiday plans as he leaves for a 4-month motor-cycle holiday on a Suzuki Trail-Bike of mainly South Africa but certainly taking in parts of Zimbabwe. He will be away until March 2012. We all wish him well.

#### GENERAL

I had hoped that the visit of Gerry Paxton would persuade 5147 Wally Wilton to grace one of our coffee mornings, but unfortunately Wally was going to be away from home so the miracle didn't take place. No doubt he will ring me when he reads this, if only to wish me a Merry Xmas.

Parry Jones, Editor of the Outpost in the UK, produced a splendid issue recently in which he re-produced photos taken at our Queensland Annual Lunch. I had supplied the names of the members attending, but had dropped a clanger by referring to Peter Nortje's wife, Carol, as a "member of the public". I was suitably chastened and apologised to Peter for my oversight.

It is hoped that the family's new covered deck at the rear of the house will be completed early in December, so that it may be possible to host a Christmas BYO get-together, instead of trying to find a suitable public venue.

With best wishes to Ian Milton that he enjoys his 80<sup>th</sup> and with my own 81<sup>st</sup> on the 21<sup>st</sup>, I take this opportunity to wish Mike Hayes a wonderful holiday in Africa.

Best wishes Mike Edden  
ADMINISTRATOR