



It has been a little while since I wrote to you all. I try and write every six months or so, just to keep in touch with all of you who have registered through the website.

There are a couple of issues which I would like to raise, the first of which is to bring to your attention the work which has been done on your web site [www.bsap.org](http://www.bsap.org). Over the last three months much has been done to refresh the look and feel of the web site and to add content which was considered of interest. Things have been shuffled around a little, but the main change is the introduction of 'news' pages for each month of the year. This month's news page can be found at <http://www.bsap.org/newsjun.html>. These pages will carry the latest news available to me from within our network and newsletters from most of the Regimental Association branches. We are trying to encourage each of the branches to 'maintain' their own pages with listing of committees and forthcoming events. I am always open for ideas for content which would interest you all.

I would also like to bring to your attention the promotional on the book, '**Blue and Old Gold**'. The web site has a promotional page on this book and where reviews are made, I shall add them to the content - please go to <http://www.bsap.org/blueoldgoldprom.html>. The book is a work well worth owning and I am sure many of you will enjoy many happy hours browsing an amazing range of images and reading. Get yours now! Zimbabwean stocks of the book are almost sold out. Distributors are listed on the webpage.

As the months go by, more and more former members are becoming more technically competent on the web. Many have e-mail addresses, but, we guess, a good number are not registered on the 'international' database that I maintain. If you are receiving e-mails from former colleagues, whom you suspect are not aware of the listing I maintain, please encourage them to communicate with me. Direct them to the web site, I am sure they will enjoy the experience. Former members do not have to be members of the Regimental Association to be included on this database. Obviously I would encourage their joining up and enjoying face to face networking with former members, you will enjoy the experience, but this is your choice.

I believe that there is something in the region of 900 former members listed on the website (Trevor Dutton counted them!), providing contact details and enabling old comrades to make contact. Some entries on this public listing originated from the Rhodesians World Wide Web site, and sadly many are stale. I am slowly working on refreshing these lists. A new feature is the inclusion of your image against your entry. If you have not been listed before, go to the site and complete the forms, but more importantly if you are already listed, go check your details and update them where they are incorrect.

We continue to run more interactive social networks for former members. There are a few 'chat lists', which are e-mail based, for former members of the force. You may subscribe to any of these by simply sending a blank e-mail to:

General Group - [BSAPAssn-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:BSAPAssn-subscribe@yahoogroups.com) - Run by the team, Andrew Field, Les Burrow and Geraint Jones

History Group - [BSAPHistory-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:BSAPHistory-subscribe@yahoogroups.com) - Run by Geoff Quick for the

more serious history topics

Traffic Talk - [TrafficTalk-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:TrafficTalk-subscribe@yahoogroups.com) - Run by Spike Werner

Christian Group - [BSAPChristian-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:BSAPChristian-subscribe@yahoogroups.com) - Run by Chris Russell

There is another form of networking which has evolved recently and which has proved popular for former members, their spouses and children. This can be found at [www.facebook.com](http://www.facebook.com) which you would need to register for online and then search for the group "British South Africa Police" or simply "BSAP". This is a less formal network than the e-mail groups, but you will find old friends here and the Facebook groups have a good collection of BSA Police images. Give it a try if you are a frequent web browser. This kind of networking is not for everyone.

Many of you will be gathering in the United Kingdom for the unveiling of the memorial to the British South Africa Police at the National Memorial Arboretum on the 25th July. I guess a good number will be at the UK Branch Braai the night before. I hope to meet many of you there, people I have known for months, if not years, in cyberspace, but have never actually met in person. I will probably know your e-mail address better than what you look like, and doubt I could identify most of you in a crowd, so that is going to be an interesting experience!

Finally, I would like to pay special tribute to all the Outpost Editors who do much work to bring the news of old comrades to members and who allow the reproduction of their newsletters on the web site. They volunteer many hours digging for information and compiling these regular newsletters. They deserve our gratitude. I would appeal to you all for some support by at least giving them feedback and your appreciation, if not, contributing news to your local editors, where you have news. I am sure they would welcome the input and old comrades would enjoy your news too. All the editors' contact details are on the site under the 'Contacts' tab at the top of each page on the website.

For those of you who like to hear all the news out of Zimbabwe, all I can say is that, as I write, there really is not much to tell. The political situation is ongoing and much of the hope we had for change and a different attitude to rule evaporated many months back. Business has become very difficult to maintain, especially with a corrupt bureaucracy.

I wish you all happy browsing, where you can and encourage you all to stay in touch with your former colleagues.

With best wishes,

**Andrew Field - 8646**

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[Website of former members of the BSA Police](#)

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