



Smoking GUN

CAPE GARRISON ARTILLERY NEWSLETTER

COVER PICTURE:
Small Arms Shooting Exercise
[Photograph by Gilly-bean]

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Message from Lieutenant Colonel J.J. Visser

How often have you heard this: "Man, *Hit is nearly Christmas again? What happened to this year?*" We tend to get so busy during the year with our normal everyday lives that we actually do lose track of time and before you know it, it really is the end of another year.

This year was a good year for CGA. Much was planned and many of these plans were achieved. Sure, much more could certainly have been done, but due to various things beyond our control everything was not possible. We had a wonderfully well-orchestrated ceremony for the handing and taking over of the General of the Gunners. This was combined with another excellent lunch for the veterans.

I would fail in my duty if I did not also thank each and every one of you for a job well done in 2017. When the year started it looked to be a year of challenges with the available man-days as one of the bigger challenges that was facing CGA at the time. The road forward was not clear and we had to find a specific way to cross the obstacles in our way. If we now look back at the year that passed we see all the things that made this year memorable.

We also had a hugely successful deployment under the auspices of Opera-

tion Corona on the KwaZulu/Natal border with Mozambique. In the process of executing their tasks, four of our members received certificates for work well done. They were Capt L. Carstens, 2Lt S.P. Phuti, L Bdr D.C. Davey and Gnr T. Scheepers. Although these members excelled in various tasks, the team however as a whole did exceptionally well and I received good positive feedback regarding their behaviour and general conduct. We need to follow these examples and always give our best. As it has been said: *"It is possible for 55 million South Africans to sleep safely, because of the excellent work done by our troops on the border."*

While the Ops deployment was taking place on the one hand the unit had to proceed with the normal tasks at hand. In this regard the one issue that we were focusing on is the guard system, and with the number of man-days available this remains a crucial element that cannot be neglected. With this in mind we revisited the standing orders and procedures and ensured that everything is done correctly. In this matter Sgt Damonse did a terrific job as Acting RSM while MWO E. Stroebeel was on deployment.

One more thing needs to be mentioned with great appreciation. The band! Certainly, all of you will immediately understand why I mention this. The CGA Pipes and Drums and all their activities that included playing at various functions and parades. They made a great impression on the people and organisers of the Bredasdorp Agri Show. They are also up for challenges and without any hesitation became part of the Bok Radio "Bokkie Toekennings" that took place at The Grand West Casino for the 7th time, and did an excellent job.

[article continues on next page...]



Smoke Signals

by Rev Wessel Rossouw

STEWARDSHIP

The term stewardship is often used in the secular world, but then also in the world of theology.

This means that when this term is utilised in the environment of faith, it is necessary to start off with a clear image of how the church functions in order to apply the concept of stewardship in terms of our Christian responsibilities and obligations.

The Bible utilises quite a number of images in order to describe the church eg. The church as a living organism, a vine with different branches, the body of Christ, to name but a few. There are also images that point out personal relationships within the Christian community like the bride of Christ, the people of God etc. Then there are those that emphasise the public nature of the church, especially with regard to the functioning of the church within the environment where it is to be found, eg. The lamp shining on a stand, a city on a mountain etc.

One of the most striking images of the church is the household of God, described directly and simply as house, or temple, or family of God. All these images strive to emphasise at the deepest level two concepts, the concept of harmony within the family and the diversity of duties that applies to each member of the household. It brings out the idea of the different responsibilities within the

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[...headline article continued]

Last but not least, it is also important that we take note of the fantastic job that Gillybean did as the editor of the newsletter of the unit the "Smoking Gun". She really has done an extraordinary job and it is highly appreciated, especially since this is a volunteer job that she has done in a professional way.

There may be some other highlights, but I mention these few as they show that the unit that we belong to, CGA, is alive and well and doing everything asked of them

in a military professional way. Of course, we also need to think at this time of all the families that will face Christmas of 2017 without the members that had passed away during this year. What else can we say than what has already been said: "We will remember them!"

Let me also take this opportunity to wish that all of you, all the members of CGA and their loved ones will have a wonderfully blessed Christmas and that you will have a richly blessed new year as well.

ALTA PETE



Editors' Comment

Thank you to those for the excellent article contributions, to those for the team work and to those that make a difference. I wish you all respect and kindness.

Till next time, go well and be safe.

[...Smoke Signal article continued]

family without destroying or harming the harmony.

Harmony and diversity in the same breath means there is equality among all members of the household of God even though or maybe exactly because of the fact that each member has been given different talents, gifts and abilities by God Himself, the Head of the household. Therefore, the tasks, services and functions that each member renders, are not the same for each member (*Romans 12; 1 Corinthians 12*).

This also implies that this image of the household of God and stewardship is quite closely linked and related. In Greek there is one word for this term, "oikonomia". This word is derived from two other words, "oikos" (house) and "nomos" (law). It refers to the orderly management of the household. It also sounds familiar on the ear as the word "economy" is also derived from this word. In this regard the manager of the household that manages it economically, is normally referred to as a steward, good or bad.

Paul refers to himself as a good steward or trustee of the household of God. A good steward ensures that all workers (members of the household) are looked after in terms of both care and obedience (doing what they can with what they have). This person also made sure that the animals were well looked after, that crops were planted and properly harvested, that children were well behaved and that investments were wisely made. Thus, the New Testament steward functioned like one of the family. This was quite different from a servant or a slave. These two persons only followed directions. The steward on the other hand, was expected to take initiative and exercise intelligence in his or her position, just like Joseph did after he became the second in command in Egypt.

This concept is clarified by Jesus Himself when in one of His parables He refers to the faithful and unfaithful stewards (*Luke*

12: 42-48). The faithful steward is the sensibly prudent one, whom the master appoints over the household. Such faithfulness moreover, will be rewarded with greater responsibilities, while the unfaithful and negligent steward will be punished severely. According to the parable, stewards were held accountable for the way in which they utilised resources entrusted to them.

Only persons and families who believe that the earth and everything in it, on it and under it belongs to the Lord, are able to experience the joyful gratitude and generosity of Christian stewardship. We can be faithful managers or stewards of our affairs because God is the faithful Manager of all of creation.

Ownership is with God (*Psalms 24*). We are not owners, but stewards. All ownership is with God. Every single created thing, living or not, ultimately belongs to Him. This includes everything material or immaterial that we may personally have in this life: possessions, careers, families, etc. God has given us all these things to enjoy, and when we realise that they still belong to God, we can rest in the assurance that God also has ultimate responsibility for them.

On the other hand, stewardship belongs to us. We are not owners, but stewards. A steward manages and takes care of that which belongs to someone else. God owns everything, but as stewards, we manage and take care of it for Him. We have an obligation to be faithful in this stewardship. The Lord holds us accountable for the special responsibility of managing and taking care of the things, He has given or entrusted to us. When we understand this owner/steward relationship that we enjoy with God's property, then it becomes easy to give. Before God stewardship covers every single thing that belong to us:

- Our life.
(*Acts 17: 25 • 1 Cor 6: 19 • Gal 2: 20*)
- Our time.
(*Ps 90: 12 • Eph 5: 15,16 • Col 4: 5*)

- Our talents and abilities.
(*1 Pet 4: 10 • 1 Cor 12: 4-7, 11*)
 - Our possessions.
(*Matt 6: 19-20 • Col 3: 1-2*)
 - Our finances.
(*1 Tim 6: 6-10, 17-19 • Matt 6: 24*)
 - The message of the Gospel.
(*1 Cor 4: 1 • 1 Cor 9: 16 • 1 Tim 6: 20*)
- Stewardship, therefore, is a moral obligation to Christians. Being morally obligated as stewards of God means three things: God makes us responsible to Him for the earth that He created (*Gen 1: 26-28; Ps 8*). People have become stewards of earth, to rule it on His behalf and for His sake. To use a more common term, we are God's managers on earth. We are called to be good, dedicated managers to look after that which does not belong to us, but that has been placed in our care. God has also entrusted us with the responsibility of looking after the poor, the homeless, the victims of injustice and hunger. As members of the body of Christ, we are responsible for the normal growth of the other parts of the body. Within this whole family we are responsible to care and share.

Response. The New Testament takes the Old Testament awareness that God seeks a responsive relationship with His people even further. Thus, stewardship must also be understood in terms of relationships. The parable of the prodigal son shows the relationship of the older brother with his father, as exposed by his resentment at the return of the younger brother. The elder brother boasts of his stewardship: All of these years I have served...

Resources. The utilisation of resources is a third and important part of stewardship. The New and Old Testaments witness to the abundance of resources that God makes available.

Christian stewardship takes the participation of every member of the household of God. It also means the sharing of resources as provided and made available by God. This needs to be done in order for the community to grow, serve and witness of the love of Christ in and for the world. Remember this when it is Christmas this year. God has given us His Son so that we may be empowered to become stewards as His sons and daughters.



Small Arms Shooting Exercise

- A PHOTO ESSAY
(Photographs by Gilly-bean)



Saturday, 21 October - what started out a fresh morning turned into a fine day, out on the range.



Safety and wind direction.



Setting up the targets.



Gun Tiffie, S/Sgt Colin Fitch, checking the rifles.



Prone position.



Kneeling position.



Standing position.



'AMBULANCE' and 'SA ARMY'.
Left: communication is key.



A visit to the grave of the Great Dane, Able Seaman Just Nuisance, which is located just a little over 1km along the road from the shooting range.



Never to be Forgotten

POPPY DAY or REMEMBRANCE DAY as it is also called, is something that should never be forgotten. It may have started off as a special memorial to those who paid the ultimate price during WW 1, but it needs to be remembered that this was not the only war where soldiers gave the lives for their land and its people. As a matter of fact one should also keep in mind all the many civilians that died as a result of war.

It is said that during all of recorded human history there has been only about 20% of the time where there has been no conflict of one kind or another where people had died violently. This means that even though Poppy Day was started as a special commemoration early in the 20th century and initially commemorated the dead of WW 1, we must remember the bigger picture of so many that have died in all sorts of conflicts.

The biggest tragedy of it all is that so many of these conflicts and wars are actually senseless and unnecessary if not all of them. Therefore, the most important question that we should ask when we observed Poppy Day this year and every year hence, should maybe just be: *"How can I (we) contribute every single day to stop any kind of conflict or violence from erupting?"*

It would be the ultimate celebration if we could say that there will never again be a war.

(by Rev Wessel Rossouw)



Lt Col J.J. Visser laying a wreath on behalf of Cape Garrison Artillery at the Cenotaph, Cape Town, on Sunday, 12 November 2017.

[Photograph by Regine Lord]



This year bikers taking part in the mass ride started from various points around Cape Town, but, as before, ended the run at Fort Wynyard.

11th of the 11th

POPPY DAY AT FORT WYNYARD

On the misty Saturday, 11 November, the M.O.T.H.s Motorcycle Association along with the Hell's Angels held their annual Poppy Day event to commemorate 'The Fallen' and to raise funds for charity. Once again a wreath laying ceremony took place at Fort Wynyard and thereafter it was time to enjoy the leisure activities presented there.

A big thank you goes to CGA and their family members who volunteered work to make this event possible and a thank you to the guests for their support.



On the parade ground.



CGA Pipes & Drums.



The playing of the National Anthem.



The laying of the wreaths.

Far left: the lowering of the National flag to half mast to the tune of 'The Last Post'.



In the Footsteps of Brave Men: The Role of the CGA in the Anglo Boer War 1899-1902

When we serve in a Regiment, especially one with the long history and tradition as Cape Garrison Artillery, we may not always be aware that we walk in the footsteps of generations of brave men.

The Anglo-Boer War (1899-1902) was a protracted and bitter conflict, that in some ways marks the transition from conventional to modern warfare. The CGA, as one of the permanent regiments of the Cape Colony, had an important role to play. Shortly after the outbreak of war, the Regiment was embodied in October 1899, the strength being 373 men. At the time the Regiment was equipped with 9 Pounders and Nordenfeldt Maxim 'Pom Pom' guns, and was intended to be employed as part of the force of Lord Roberts advancing northwards to relieve the sieges of Kimberley and Mafeking.



The CGA Regiment leaving Cape Town for the front 1899. Note the edge of Devil's Peak in the background. Probably en route to the railway station to entrain.

In addition to the deployment of the Regiment, some of the earliest (the first in Africa) rail guns were built at the Railway Workshops in Salt River. Two 9.3 Coastal Guns were mounted on railway carriages and were manned by CGA personnel, as seen in the painting below. In many ways these foreshadowed the massive rail guns developed during the first and second world wars.



Left: Rail Guns manned by the CGA. Note Table Mountain in the background.

The Regiment came into action near Modder River in the Northern Cape in November 1899, part of a series of battles leading up to the relief of Kimberley which was besieged by the Boer forces.

During 1900 they were chiefly employed on the western railway, between Cape Town and Kimberley, and also west of the line. At the battle of Sannaspost on 31 March 1900, Lt Block, who later became Officer Commanding (Lt Col) fought against Gen Christiaan de Wet near Bloemfontein and lost several men and his two field batteries. It was not only the gunners, but also the drivers in charge of the horses that showed great valour in this battle, trying to save the guns. Driver Rodger of the CGA was subsequently mentioned in Lord Roberts despatches on 2nd April 1901.

Some of the batteries were detached to support various forces of infantry. Some were in Jacobsdal when that town was attacked on 25th October 1900 and some were in the relieving force. In his telegram of 31st August 1900 Lord Roberts deals with an attack on Kraaipan station, in which he remarks: "Sergeant Southrood, Cape Garrison Artillery, behaved with great gallantry".

Elements of the CGA were also involved in the Relief of Mafeking (November 1901). Once the first (conventional) phase of the war drew to a close, there was less need for artillery, as the conflict was with small fast moving Boer Commandos fighting a guerrilla war. In 1901 detachments of the CGA garrisoned, along with the Cape Town Highlanders and various locally raised troops, the towns in the extreme west of Cape Colony and sundry posts right up to the border of German South-West Africa, which were successfully held against repeated attacks. Various raiding parties of Boer Commandos made frequent raids deep into the Cape Colony, penetrating at one stage within sight of Table Mountain in the Darling area.

Few people today know that in 1902 the little dorp of Okiep became world famous. In 1902 Gen Smuts decided to lead a commando down to the Cape Colony. It was during this campaign that his Commando laid siege to the mining town of Okiep, headquarters of the Cape Copper Mining Company. This was after the neighbouring towns of Concordia and Springbok had surrendered. Springbok had put up quite fierce resistance, with British losses being four men killed and six wounded. Due to the small size of British forces in the region, Boer forces had free reign of the surrounding areas. Thus Gen Smuts and his commando were able to force the evacuation of many outposts as well as blowing up a number of blockhouses.

The majority of the refugees fled to Port Nolloth, as two British gunboats were en route there. On 4 April 1902, Gen Smuts demanded the surrender of Okiep.

The defending force was commanded by Colonel W.A.D. Shelton and consisted of the Namaqualand Town Guard, 44 men of the Warwickshire Militia and 12 Gunners of Cape Garrison Artillery. Including local miners, the garrison consisted of 923 men facing about 3000 Boers under Gen Smuts and Gen Maritz. Major Dean, the Company's manager, prepared the town for defence and erected a perimeter of blockhouses. The Cape Garrison Artillery manned the 9-pdr and Maxim gun. On April 4, 1902, the Boers invested Okiep and demanded its surrender, which was rejected. Desultory attacks began on April 8 and soon one blockhouse was captured.

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During the siege, only one determined assault was made and this was easily repulsed. After that the siege degenerated into a mere blockade conducted with such mutual good humour that on one occasion a challenge to a football match was considered by the garrison and eventually declined.

Gen Smuts himself was whisked off to Vereeniging to attend the peace conference between the Boer leaders and Lord Kitchener.

The garrison was relieved after 30 days by a force dispatched by sea from Cape Town under the Command of Colonel Cooper. In Okiep today you can view Fort Shelton, the main blockhouse during siege of Okiep during Anglo Boer War. This defensive position saw the major part of the action during the siege and was also manned by a 6 pounder gun. Graffiti, made by the Cape Town Highlanders and Cape Garrison Artillery, can be seen in the Okiep East Mine, as well as a fine monument.

The Honourable Major Edwards,
O'Kiep

Dear Sir,

I wish to inform you that I have agreed to a football match taking place between you and us. I, from my side, will agree to a ceasefire tomorrow afternoon from 12 o'clock until sunset, the time and venue of the match to be arranged by you in consultation with Messrs. Roberts and Van Rooyen who I am sending to you.

I have the honour etc.,
pp. S. G. Moritz
Field General
Transvaal Scouting Corps.

Letter from Gen Manie Maritz suggesting the game of football.



Medal issued to defenders of Okiep.

A unique medal was issued to defenders of Okiep, including the 12 members of the CGA.

The CGA suffered a number of casualties during the Anglo Boer War, as acknowledged on CGA's Memorial Wall, and Lieutenant J C Campbell was, when serving with an armoured train, unfortunately killed in an accident north of Pretoria on 8th May 1902.

Photo Fun Flaunt...



GUARDING THE GARRISON GATES
[Photograph by Gilly-bean]



ANGLO-BOER WAR

GNR	A DEE
GNR	GM STEPHEN
BDR	JC CONNER
GNR	S FORESTER
GNR	J ROUKE
GNR	AM CUTTING
GNR	HJ EYES
GNR	P BOURKS
LT COL	AP DE VILLIERS
GNR	EJ McDAUALL
GNR	R DARRISCH
LT	JC CAMPBELL

Names on the Anglo-Boer War Green Point Memorial Wall

At the conclusion of the war, Lord Kitchener mentioned in his dispatches of 23rd June 1902. Lieutenant Colonel T E Lawton; Captain J Sampson; Company Sergeant Major W G Duncan; Sergeants W Lewis, F C Honey, A V Carruthers, and W Vye.

All in all it can be said that the CGA in its whole, acting in a traditional artillery role, and in its parts in the various detachments, made a substantial contribution to the Anglo Boer War. Yet another chapter in the proud history of a proud regiment.

(Photographs supplied and article by Paul Alexander)





Left to right: Bdr Dewald le Roux, Cdr (Ret) Mac Bisset, Glen Williford, Capt (SAN)(Ret) Chris Dooner, WO Harry Croome & Terry McGovern.

Visiting Historians to Fort Wynyard

On Sunday, 5th November, Smoking Gun met with Terrance McGovern and Glen Williford at Fort Wynyard to join them for a tour of the premises.

Terry and Glen are visiting historians from the United States and are both members of the Coast Defense Study Group which is based in Maryland. Between them they have authored and co-authored a number of books on military history, and the purpose for their visit to South Africa was to view World War II Coastal Defence artefacts and precincts with specific emphasis on guns and gunnery emplacements.

Leading the tour of the Fort was Mac Bisset, a retired Commander of the South African Navy. Mac was a founder of the old museum at Fort Wynyard, in the time when the base was home to the SA Navy, and he is therefore very familiar with the site. Accompanying Mac was CGA's Bombardier Dewald le Roux, holding the Fort keys, and joining our group were tour-organiser, Captain (SA Navy) (Retired) Chris Dooner, and SA Naval Museum representative, Warrant Officer Harry Croome.

We were all greeted by a cheerful Lieutenant Colonel Bob Visser who chatted with our guests while they viewed the displays in our new Sergeant Mess.

After the Sergeant Mess we said goodbye to the Colonel and proceeded through the rest of the Fort. Harry is an expert and restorer of canons and had a lot of notable facts to share with us, including pointing



The photograph Capt (SAN)(Ret) Chris Dooner took of the stamp on the top side of the 12-Pounder Navel Gun barrel.

out to me, which I personally found interesting, the stamps found on the top of most gun barrels. This had Chris gallantly clambering onto the 12-Pounder Navel Gun to get the best position to photographically document its barrel stamp. Harry also noticed a shell attached to the base of the more southern of the two 6-inch Breech Loading Mark VII guns. I can only assume it is attached there to act as a ballast weight? Does anyone have any further knowledge on the matter? We would appreciate to hear from you.

Once they had seen almost every nook and cranny of Fort Wynyard, Terry and Glen seemed happy with their visit and expressed their vocal gratitude. I for one enjoyed their visit immensely and wish them all the best with their research and writings thereof.

(Photographs and article by Gilly-bean)



Capt (SAN)(Ret) Chris Dooner sits 'in position' on the 12-Pounder Navel Gun.



The shell found attached under one of the 6-inch Breech Loading Mark VII guns.



The red circle indicates where the shell is attached under the gun.



Left to right: Terry McGovern, Capt (SAN)(Ret) Chris Dooner, Cdr (Ret) Mac Bisset and Glen Williford.



WO Harry Croome points out to Bdr Dewald le Roux that 'our' (CGA) canon is older than 'his' canon in the SA Navy Museum. The serial number and the year of manufacture stamped where he is pointing on the 7-inch Rifled Muzzle-Loader.



CGA Birthdays

OVER THE NEXT THREE MONTHS

DECEMBER

- 1 - Sgt John Berry
- 8 - Bdr Tevin Mema
- 20 - Gnr Khuthala Ngcawuzela
- 21 - Gnr Ashley de Villiers
- 22 - L Bdr Skelo Majiki
- 23 - L Bdr Marcellino de Kock
- 24 - L Bdr Tiba Tuswa
- Gnr Isaac Njwabule
- 30 - Bdr Nolan de Waal

JANUARY

- 4 - 2 Lt Andrew Bester
- 2 Lt K. George
- 2 Lt T. Ketani
- 2 Lt M. Peterson
- 2 Lt S. Solani
- 2 Lt C. Sonjika
- 5 - Gnr Thembile Mtshokotsha
- 6 - Gnr William Bennett
- 9 - Bdr Wiseman Molebatsi
- 10 - L Bdr Hutton
- 12 - L Bdr Gadija Damon
- 22 - Gnr John Williams
- 28 - WO 1 Jan Jansen
- 30 - Gnr Leighton

NOVEMBER

- 3 - Gnr Graham Peterson
- 6 - Maj Jan Louw
- 7 - CO Ella Oliphant
- 9 - Gnr Mxolisi Ntlebi
- 11 - Gnr Phindiwe Nongxa
- 12 - S Sgt Tony Reis
- 17 - WO 1 Catharina Coetzee
- 25 - Gnr Melvin Campbell
- 27 - Lt Reginald Visagie



On Sunday, 19 November, the Nederduitse Gereformeerde Church in Kuilsrivier held a pray day for all members of the protection services. The liturgy was led by Ds Helené Fouché and was attended by (left to right): Pipe Sgt Mogamat Opperman, Michael Leighton, John van Niekerk, Lt Col J.J. Visser, Lt Col (Ret) Christie du Plessis, Bdr Dewald le Roux, Zhaheed Smith, Pipe Major Tony Reis, Brogan Reis, Sgt Alfton Damonse, Rfn Johan Cloete, Tyrone Marwick; and Kerry Tracey (who kindly took the photograph).

The City of Cape Town and Kelvin Grove Military Dinner

11TH OCTOBER 2017

The traditional Kelvin Grove Military Dinner, now in the 18th year, took on a slightly different theme this year, and focused on the 50th Anniversary, of the granting of *The Freedom of Entry to the City of Cape Town*, to four Reserve Force (Citizen Force in those days) units.

On 10th October 1967, The City granted the Freedom of Entry to Cape Field Artillery, Cape Town Rifles (Dukes), Cape Town Highlanders and SAS Unitie (now disbanded). There were a number of former and current OC's, plus serving members of all these units who attended.

There was representation from the Western Cape Government, Reserve Force Council, all arms of the SANDF. There were some 24 full time and Reserve Force units, associations and SAPS Reserves. The dinner was moved from the club Grill Room, down to the Ball Room, due to space constrictions and we had a record 156 attendees.

Our two Guests of Honour were Alderman Ian Neilson, Deputy Executive Mayor of Cape Town and Brigadier General McGill Alexander SM, MMM (Ret), former OC 44 Parachute Brigade, who specially drove down from Port Elizabeth to attend.

Alderman Neilson specifically spoke about the importance of the role played by the four units, in support of the City of Cape Town, and also touched on contributions from the other units with the Freedom of

Entry, CGA included. Our unit was granted the Freedom in November 1980.

Brig Gen Alexander gave a very professional, and well received, AV presentation on the "Border War", heliborne operations in the Western Mountains of the then South West Africa. He focused on three very specific operations, and gave all attending, a very interesting and unusual insight, as to how the paras operated in those days. Puma (now Oryx) helicopters, as well as the old Allouette being the mode of transport.

CGA Regimental Association members who attended the dinner, most with partners, were Capt (Ret) Vic Martinelli, Cdr (Ret) Mac Bisset, Ex OC Lt Col (Ret) Marius van der Westhuizen, Maj (Ret) Jacques Booysen, Maj (Ret) Piet Dorfling, Capt (Ret) Arnie Beneke, Capt (Ret) Bruce Risien, Sgt (Ret) Kevin Ashton and Bdr (Ret) Mike Forcioli. We were delighted to have Sir De Villiers Graaff and Lady Gaedry Graaff with us, and also very privileged to welcome Col T. Mohoase, ADA Fmn, SSO Force Prep, who took the trouble to come down from Pretoria, for the dinner. We also had Mr Carl Kies, CEO Reutech Radar Systems, with partner attending, and all thoroughly enjoyed the evening.

Kelvin Grove staff excelled as usual, presented an excellent meal and decorated the Ball Room superbly. The CTR (Dukes) band provided most enjoyable pre dinner music, and are to be thanked for their time.

We have had very positive feedback from many attendees who attended the function, and we look forward to the 2018 dinner. (by Bruce Risien)





CGA's pipers perform on stage while CGA's drummers lead the beating drumline up the aisles, during rehearsals in the Grand Arena. [Photograph by Gilly-bean]

CGA Pipes & Drums at Bok Radio's 'Wes-Kaapse Bokkie Toekennings'

The main event took place on 8 October at the Grand Arena, GrandWest, in front of a crowd of over 5000. One of Bok Radio's leading presenters, Le-Lue, thanked CGA Pipes & Drums on a feature radio show, stating that it gave her goose-flesh to hear them play.



Members of CGA's Pipes & Drums and the rest of the drumline pose with Le-Lue (centre). [Photograph by Gilly-bean]

Bredasdorp

The Cape Garrison Artillery Pipes & Drums was invited to take part in the 2017 Mega Agri Show in Bredasdorp.

So, in the early hours of the 16th September the Pipe Band departed Fort Wynyard in the Army bus on a 2½ hour trip to a very wet Bredasdorp. Once again, the designated drivers were the ever so reliable S/Sgt Martin Papier and Gnr Chris Lucas.

With the current rains that the Theewaterskloof and Cape Agulhas areas had been receiving, the farm lands enroute to Bredasdorp were absolutely stunning.

On arriving at the Mega Agri Show, no time was wasted to get dressed, as we had to perform almost immediately. Due to the constant heavy rains and wet/muddy grounds, they decided we play indoors. This attracted much attention, and media coverage.

After a very successful performance, we were then given lunch at the Department of Home Affairs building, sponsored by the Municipality of Bredasdorp. We were then joined by the Mayor of Bredasdorp, and asked to march with two school marching bands for the Bredasdorp Community. Albeit a rather long march, and not knowing when it was going stop, it turned out to be quite enjoyable in the end.

The march eventually finished at a Community Church, where the Mayor gave his speech and thank you's.

We arrived back safely at Fort Wynyard later that evening, feeling very satisfied with the day's proceedings.

Once again, a very big Thank You to our two amazing drivers, S/Sgt Martin Papier and Gnr Chris Lucas.

(by S/Sgt Tony Reis)



Smoke Profiles

A LOOK AT:
MOGAMAT SALIE OPPERMAN
PIPE SERGENT - CGA PIPES & DRUMS

"I was born in 1956, June 11th in Cape Town South Africa. At the age of twelve I joined Habibiah Muslim Brigade where I learned to play the bagpipes. I was an active member for 27 years. In 1993 they were invited to join Lanasia Muslim Brigade to play at the Transvaal Scottish 90th Anniversary at the Standard Bank Arena.

We always thought of ways to improve our piping, so I approached the Cape Town Caledonian Piping Society. The first question I was asked was if I could read music and I said no. They then asked me if I wanted to learn, I said yes, and I have been

with the band ever since.

In 1997 I entered The Novices Piping Competition and won.

I have played for various functions, such as school fêtes, concerts, as well as functions for The City of Cape Town, The Cape Town Military Tattoo and we paraded for the switching on of the season lights on Adderley Street. I have also piped for various military functions, the most memorable being Music of the Night in Plymouth, UK, with the Cape Field Artillery Pipes and Drums.

Being a member of the Cape Garrison Artillery Pipes and Drums, I had the honour, with the CGA Pipes and Drums, of parading at the ADA's (Air Defence Atillery) Centenary Parade in Kimberley in 2015.

In 2016, I became the Pipe Sergeant of the Cape Garrison Artillery Pipe Band." (Photograph supplied by S/Sgt Tony Reis)

