



# THE RHODESIAN ARMY ASSOCIATION



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England

October 2016

Dear Member / Friend,

## **REMEMBRANCE DAY – SUNDAY 13<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2016** **RAA (UK) SERVICE OF REMEMBRANCE AND REUNION LUNCHEON**

*This letter has been sent to you at the request of the RAA Chairman, Brigadier Vic Walker, to advise you that the arrangements for the RAA Service of Remembrance and the Reunion Luncheon in London on Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> November 2016 have now been finalised.*

### **1. THE SERVICE OF REMEMBRANCE**

- a. **Venue** The Rhodesia Plot, The Garden of Remembrance, St Margaret's Church, Next to Westminster Abbey, London
- b. **Timing** 10h15 - 10h30hrs Members arrive  
10h40 - 11h05hrs Service of Remembrance  
(Includes two minutes silence at 11:00)
- c. **Officiating Chaplain** The Right Reverend Robert Mercer CR  
(Formerly Bishop of Matabeleland)
- d. **Order of Service** These will be distributed at the Service
- e. **Participants**
  - The Lesson Peter PHILLIPS, ex-Chairman, BSAP Reg. Assn.
  - Roll of Honour Geoff COOKE, 8 / 9 Batt Rhodesia Regiments
  - The Exhortation Lt Col D. P. "Hobo" HOBSON
  - The Kohima Epitaph Maj. Gen. M. D. SHUTE OLM
  - Act of Commitment WOII Will RANSOM
  - Collection (after the Service) Lt Col D. P. HOBSON on behalf of the RAA and RBL
- f. **Ensigns to the Colours**
  - Rhodesia Vince LEONARD (1RAR)  
(Colour Party Convener)
  - Rhodesian Army Association Alan ALLSOP (RhSigs)
  - Rhodesian African Rifles (Queens Colour) Bill LIVERSIDGE (1RAR)
  - Rhodesian African Rifles (Regimental Colour) John Wynne HOPKINS (1RAR)
  - Rhodesian Air Force Laurence "Flo" HILL (RhodAF)
  - Rhodesia Regiment Iain HARPER (9RR)
  - BSA Police Regimental Colour Peter BIDDULPH (BSAP Reg. Assoc.)
  - Internal Affairs Bryn PRICE (INTAF)
- g. **Dress**
  - Suit / Blazer, Regimental tie, Medals. Berets/Bush hats may be worn

Charity Registered in England and Wales, Registration Number 1085238

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## 2. REUNION LUNCHEON

- a. **Venue** Novotel (Waterloo) London  
113 Lambeth Road  
London SE1 7LS  
(SatNav Coordinates N51°29'40" W0°07'10")  
(Payable Secure Underground Parking at Hotel – about £15)
- b. **Timing**
- |       |   |
|-------|---|
| 11h30 | Members arrive & meet at the Bar            |
| 13h00 | Grace The Right Reverend Robert Mercer CR   |
|       | Lunch Buffet and Dessert followed by Coffee |
|       | Toasts Will Ransom RhSigs (PMC)             |
|       | The Loyal Toast                             |
|       | The Fallen                                  |
|       | Rhodesia                                    |
| 15h00 | Raffle Draw, Conducted at the end of Lunch  |
| 16h30 | Function ends, members disperse             |
- c. **Cost** **£26.00 per person** (ONLY One Pound more than last year)
- d. **Seating Plan**
- Tables will be allocated on an as requested basis. Members wishing to book a Group table are requested to do so by reply to this letter, advising the numbers to be seated at that table and the designation of the table, e.g. RAR, RLI, BSAP, INTAF etc.
  - Tables will also be arranged for the Rhodesian Air Force and BSA Police Regimental Association, depending on numbers attending.

## 3. TRAVEL TO FUNCTIONS

If you are travelling to London by car, do not expect to get anywhere near Westminster Abbey. The following recommendations will hopefully make your journey much better and easier:

- a. **To the Service of Remembrance – (see Attached Map)**
- If you are travelling by car, and whether you attend the Luncheon after the Service or not, we suggest you park your car at the Hotel (see Hotel address details above) and walk to the service. It is a comfortable 10-minute walk, and there is possibly a special price to use the Hotel Underground Parking. Please contact me well in advance if you want this.
  - If you travel to London by train, you are advised to verify, well in advance and again on the day you travel, that your proposed route is clear and not subject to the regular Rail Industry maintenance closures, and if it is, to make arrangements to accommodate any obstructions so that you do not miss the start or the whole of the Service and /or the Luncheon.
  - Train travellers, complete your journey to the Service by underground on the Circle or District Line, getting off at Westminster or St James Park Station not later than 10h15. Those arriving via Westminster and Charing Cross are warned that the pavements will be packed with spectators to the Remembrance Day Parade at the Cenotaph.
- b. **To the Reunion Luncheon – (see Attached Map)**
- The Novotel is a comfortable ten-minute walk from the Garden of Remembrance via St Margaret's Church exit. From Parliament Square, turn right along Abingdon Street towards Lambeth Bridge, then turn left, and cross the bridge. When you are across the bridge, cross the roundabout to Lambeth Road and the Novotel is about 80m directly ahead on the right.

The Service of Remembrance is open to everyone at no cost, and all Members and their guests are most welcome to attend without prior notification.

***However, for the Luncheon planning, it is necessary that replies and remittances with names are received by Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> November 2016 at the very latest, as seating is limited at the Luncheon, so, the sooner you confirm your booking, the better.***

We look forward to welcoming as many of you as possible to the Garden of remembrance and, hopefully, to the Luncheon afterwards.

PLEASE ADDRESS ALL ENQUIRIES TO GEOFF COOKE – DETAILS AT THE HEAD OF THIS LETTER

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