

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

RLIRA –AFRICA BRANCH

HELD AT THE DICKIE FRITZ SHELLHOLE JOHANNESBURG
ON SATURDAY 5TH MAY 2018 AT 11.00AM

AGENDA

WELCOME

Good morning, Thank you for your support and attending the AGM.

APOLOGIES

Received from

Peter Mincher.

Lew Llyod Evans and his 2 Brothers.

Alastair Bond

Chris Ras

Jimmy Jamieson

Bill Wiggill

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES –[AGM 2017]

Proposed- Rob Marsh

Seconded – Kevin Barron

MATTERS ARISING

- The Future of the RLIRA –Resolution by Africa Branch
- The RLIRA –Africa Branch has resolved to continue to operate within the current constitution until 2021, the 60th Anniversary of the RLIRA.

This was the decision reached at a meeting with some 35 members in October 2017.

RLIRA ExCo will undertake an exercise in 2021, working with the various branches to determine the viability and future of the Association.

Any amalgamation with like minded Associations will be considered at this time.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT.

Brian Lewis

See below

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Membership Subs

Members were strongly encouraged to pay their annual membership subs of R300 as there was no excuse not to, given that funds are available for those who genuinely cannot afford to pay.

Funds have been made available by the generosity of some members who have paid extra to ensure that those who could not afford to pay would be covered.

Confidentiality will be respected at all times.

To remain a Full Member of Good standing annual subs must be paid –

We Need Your Support , Please Pay -it is The Right Thing To Do.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Mark Taunton

See Below This Report

SECRETARY REPORT

Bucks Theron

See attached

WELFARE REPORT

Charlie Norris

R228k paid out to seventeen deserving and in need members.

Payments were for medical living and subsistence, and in some cases rental.

There is stringent but flexible vetting in place.

So far this year, 2018 YTD, payments of R150k have been from the Welfare Fund to our members who are in need of a helping hand.

REGIONAL REPORTS

GAUTENG –Neil Swart –see Cheetah

KZN-Skip Mitchell –see Cheetah

EC/PE- Mark Taunton –see Cheetah

CAPE PROVINCE -Maurice Gabriel – not received at time of AGM.

AWARDS

Nil for 2017

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

There were no matters arising from the floor or the 2017 AGM minutes.

The Patron, Col Ian Bate proposed a vote of thanks to the Committee and congratulated them on a further term of office.

ELECTIONS OFFICE BEARERS 2018/2019

The current Committee, with the exception of Debbie Huxham –QM, and Maurice Gabriel –Cape Region, have offered to stand for re-election for 2018-2021.

There were no nominations received, and no objections.

Therefore -

***Standing down** –Maurice Gabriel –Cape Region.

Nomination received for Cape Province –John Van Zyl.

***Standing down** –Debbie Huxham-QM

Appointed –Charlie Warren

***New Appointment** 2018 –Memorabilia Member –Len Beechey

The Committee was unanimously voted in to stand for a further term of office [Three years] until 2021

Current Committee 2018 -2021

Office Bearers

Chairman –Brian Lewis
Treasurer –Mark Taunton
Secretary –Bucks Theron

Chairman/ Committee Appointments

Welfare Officer - Charlie Norris
Functions and Events – Alan Strachan
QM –Charlie Warren
Gauteng Rep –Neil Swart
KZN Rep –Skip Mitchell
EC/PE Rep Mark Taunton
Cape-John Van Zyl -
Memorabilia Member –Len Beechey

TRIBUTE AND APPRECIATION

Maurice Gabriel –Cape Region

The Chairman Thanked Maurice for a very successful term of office, and for his excellent work in “Flying the RLI Flag” in the Cape, often in very difficult circumstances.

Maurice has been successful in raising much needed funds for the RLI Welfare Fund.

We welcome and Thank John Van Zyl for stepping up to the plate, and wish him every success.

We urge all RLI members living in and around Cape Town to make contact with John, who is on FB as well, and give him the support he will need.

Debbie Huxham –QM

The Chairman thanked Debbie for her hard work as QM.

Her initiative and drive has had a huge impact on QM Sales, and we have made some excellent Funds because of her drive and dedication.

We wish Debbie and Gary our very best wishes as they relocate to the Cape.

The Chairman also thanked Debbie’s sons [RLIRA Legacy Members] for their hard work in helping to set up and to fetch and carry. Their help has been of great value to us.

We welcome Charlie Warren as the new QM, and wish him every success as he fills the big boots left by Debbie, we know he will.

Charlie and Debbie will arrange to do a hand over in the month ahead, and the QM sales will not be affected by any of this.

CHAIRMANS REVIEW -2015/2018.

I would like to give some focus in my review, on the last three years, of my stint. Instead of re-hashing information you may be aware of, or listening to the sound of my own voice, and not wanting to bore you further, I have decided to focus on what I consider to be the highlights, which may be of interest.

Tribute To those who served

I thought the time right to reflect just a little, on the history of our Association in SA, and to pay tribute to the various personalities who kept the Spirit of the RLI alive over the years.

Over the last decade and more, your committees have kept the colours held high and the Association has, with your support, gone from strength to strength.

I would like to pay tribute, to these men and women who have worked hard at keeping our Association viable.

The information I have may not be entirely accurate, and largely based on memory.

*The various Chairmen and Committee's who's hard work, dedication and loyalty played a major role in the current success of our Association in Africa.

John Cole-1980, Ian Bate- 81-1985, Deryck Stokes-1992, Derrick Taylor 94, and then a long gap followed and Hamish MacIntyre took the reins -2007 ...

George Dempster-2007.

George revived the Association after a number of years, and was seen as the catalyst in getting things moving and in the formalisation of an updated constitution.

The formation of the RLIRA webpage was introduced by George Dempster assisted by Bill Wiggill. George still manages this at no charge to the Association, to this day.

Bill Wiggill took over in 2009. ..Charlie Norris-2012Brian Lewis- 2015

Through their leadership, dedication and with the support of the respective committee members, the various Chairmen have ensured the Association in Africa has gone from strength to strength, and has successfully kept the flag flying high.

There have been some memorable Milestones along the way attributed to each of the Chairmen and their Committees, and these will outlined in a write up soon to be published in the upcoming Cheetah.

I pay tribute to the many women who supported their husbands' efforts, who worked hard behind the scenes, often not recognised for their contributions-Thank You Ladies.

It is safe to say that when each Chairman/Committee had completed their stints they left "Big Boots" to fill for the incoming committee, this challenge was met head on by each incoming committee which contributed to our encouraging membership growth in SA.

I pay tribute to our **Members** , **Supporters** and **Friends** , and especially our **Generous Donors**, some of who are with us today , without you we simply “Fade Away” , and the Association ceases to exist .

The camaraderie and support has been second to none and has made our task so much more gratifying, knowing that you care.

Thank You All.

HIGHLIGHTS -2015 TO 2018YTD.

- **RLI TROOPIE STATUE , SOUTH AFICA**

The Troopie was unveiled at the 55TH ANNIVERSARY REGIMENTAL DAY PARADE on 6th February 2016.

We were fortunate to have the original Commanding Officer –Col Ian Bate MLM, our Patron. And Russell Phillips SCR, attend and conduct the unveiling ceremony.

Some 139 men on Parade [109 of which were RLIRA members].

Some 359 members, friends and supporters attended a luncheon after the parade, which was hosted by the Africa Committee in the Dickie Fritz MOTH Shellhole.

The SA Troopie has proven to be a rallying point for the Association, especially for those living in the Jo’burg area.

Annual Regimental Day , Puma 164/Operation Uric Memorial Parades are held at the Troopie Statue ,as are open air memorial / funeral services for the members who have passed on .

- **LEGACY MEMBERS DRIVE**

We initiated a Big LM Drive , from an objective identified by the previous Committee under Charlie Norris .

2015- 8 new members

2016- 4new members

2017 3 new members

2018 YTD 2 new members

TOTAL -17members to date.

- **PATRONS DAY JULY**

Patrons Day in South Africa was introduced in July 2015, and one of the main objectives is the raising of funds for Welfare which near and dear to the heart of our Patron Col. Ian Bate.

The first function was held at the Cottesloe MOTH Shellhole, and despite a relatively small crowd on a cold day we managed to raise some R6k.

***2016** it was held in September to coincide with Puma /164 and OP Uric Memorial Parade. A very successful Portuguese theme function was held and some excellent Funds were raised for the Welfare Fund.

***2017** held at Dickie Fritz and again a successful function raised a good sum of money for the Welfare Fund.

Patrons Day will be held annually in September.

- **REGIMENTAL DAY – RLI BIRTHDAY –ANNUAL THEME.**

February every year the Association commemorates the Regiments Birthday by holding a Memorial Service and Parade, and each year over the last three years we have commemorated our Birthday as follows –

*Tribute to the RLI Fallen -2016

*Tribute to the RLI Widows- 2017

*Tribute to the RLI Fathers, from the Legacy members -2018

RLIRA KIT HIRE

In 2016 the committee approved the purchase of 5 complete sets of RLIRA-kit , which includes Association colour Jackets , badges , ties and berets which are available for Hire at a nominal fee/ deposit from the QM .

- **RLIRA FACE BOOK GROUP LAUNCHED**

- **RLIRA QM STORES FACE BOOK GROUP LAUNCHED**

- **PUMA 164 /OP URIC PARADE 2016**

Initiated by Neil Swart and a few of his friends , this has become a regular event on our calendar and is well attended in September each year .

- **CHRISTMAS FUNCTION 2016**

A popular and well attended event each year, initiated by Brian and Marion Lewis.

The DIY Hat Parade is a fun feature during the day and members with their families get to enjoy good food, music and if they are lucky some great Xmas pressies /prizes.

Main objective of this event is for the Association to “give back” to our members, supporters and friends who attend on the day, and to raise funds for Welfare.

- **COMMANDO DAY 2017/ 2018**

Has been generally very successful and well attended. Is likely to become a bi annual event.

- **LAUNCH OF AFRICA BRANCH NEWSLETTER –THE SITREP -2018**

An initiative by one of our supporters Adrian Haggert, who has offered to sponsor and edit the Newsletter.

CURRENT & FUTURE PROJECTS 2018/2021

- **60TH Anniversary-Commemorative Medal**

Silver /Pewter -Medal include Miniature [Face depicts RLI Badge –Inscription The Rhodesian Light Infantry [top] , 1961-1980 [bottom], Reverse –Cheetah embossed 60th 2021.Ribbon – Green & White Stable Belt colours /stripes replica.

Also for consideration

- **60th Anniversary Silver Medallion in case ,As Above [Front & Reverse]**

- **Storage Facility for QM and RLI memorabilia Stocks at Dickie Fritz.**
- **Preservation and Restoration of Battalion Photograph albums and records**
- **Production and publication of a coffee table book –Cranborne Barracks Home Of The Saints –A Pictorial Account of Life in the Barracks from 1961 -1980**
- **NPO and SARS Registered.[ONGOING]**
- **Ongoing Update of Nominal Roll and Membership Categories - RLIRA Members –Africa Branch .**
- **Membership subs- computer generated invoicing / receipt .**

WELFARE

The Welfare Fund remains at the heart of our activities to ensure that we have sufficient Funds to meet the requirements of those among us, and who at one time fought or soldiered on by our side.

The Welfare Fund paid out **R228 000.00** to meet either Medical or Living expenses to some 17 members in 2017.

Charlie Norris will elaborate on this in his report.

Sadly, this year to date [2018], the need for us to extend a helping hand has continued unabated, and the fund has already paid out some R150 000.00 . In most cases the payments have been made to assist members with medical costs .

Fortunately we have not had to turn anyone away .

Alarming and rather sadly it has become necessary for us to vet requests for financial assistance a lot more stringently.

We have received reports and have instances where members seem to assume that the Welfare Fund was set up to meet ALL their specific household budgetary expenses.

The record has been set straight with the individuals concerned.

The Association will generally only consider appeals for medical, living and subsistence expenses .Where required proof may be requested.

Donors and Donations

We wish to pay tribute to our very generous donors and supporters who have donated **R256 000.00** to the Welfare Fund in 2017, and in the past number of years.

Many of our generous donors are sitting here today – You know who you are –On behalf of the members and those whom you have helped -Thank You .

Throughout the year we have received numerous and varied donations which have been put up for raffle or auction and have raised some excellent funds.

Most of the donors have requested anonymity.

Without your donations the Welfare Fund will simply cease to function, and we gratefully acknowledge the generosity of each donor. .

We are fully aware that as an Association, our Welfare Funds are limited, therefore we, can not, and will not be a “Fix –All” for everyone.

However with your ongoing support and generosity, we are determined to be able to provide some form of financial relief for medical and living needs for those who are in genuine need of our help.

Closing

I have thoroughly enjoyed being part of the team over the last three years, and together we have kept the flag flying high and spirit of camaraderie alive and well in Africa.

I have been very fortunate to have a truly dedicated and hardworking team of men and a women , and I pay tribute to each of them , and thank them for their hard work .

As cliché’ as this may sound , I strongly believe ,that any leader , be it military , business or sport , can only be as successful as his team .

We have been bowled over by the support and generosity of our members. They turn up for our Prayer Meetings, Parades and functions, and get actively involved in all aspects of the event at the time- and we thank them for this.

Your ongoing support and generosity is the inspiration that we need to keep going, and to do better each time.

Well Done! To you all .Thank you.

Brian Lewis
Chairman
2018

Financial Report

For the Period 1st Jan to 31st December 2017

Below are a full set of accounts including the Income and Expenditure Accounts and Balance sheet For the Period 1st Jan to 31st December 2017.

Please Note that in order for the Association to be seen as a Non-Profit organisation I have changed all references to “Profit” in the income statement to Fund Surplus.

1. Fund Surplus for the year to date

The Fund Surplus year was R279, 138.95.

This is reflected in the improved cash and bank accounts.

2. Income

Our income comes from four mains sources, these being; subscriptions, welfare donations, fund raising and sale of memorabilia.

a. Subscriptions

The Income generated this year has been excellent with Subscriptions more than doubling last year’s collections coming in at R66,401 The collections improved to 34% from the prior year of 19%.

2017 Analysis of Subs Paid	Nominal Roll	Subs paid	% Subs paid
Life Member	8	2	25%
Associate Member	23	3	13%
Full Member	407	119	29%
Affiliate Member	19	1	5%
Honorary Member	42	13	31%
Legacy Member	2	1	50%
Not On Nominal Roll	48	48	100%
Total	549	187	34%

b. Donations

Donations were amazing and came in at R255, 395 which is over R100 000.00 or 87% more than last year.

c. Merchandise

Sale of merchandise was R84, 118 with a profit of R18, 315 giving a GP % of 21.8%. This GP% is lower than last year which was 36% and is covered in the Gross Profit Percentage analysis by inventory type is at the end of this report.

Fund Raising Events

I have analysed each event as to its contribution the day had to the coffers. For the purposes of the evaluation I have pulled together all the day's activities some of which are recorded under other line items on the income statement. Items such as the 50/50 boards, Merchandise Sales and the days operating costs.

i. The Regimental Day

Raised R20, 085 and made a small profit of R2, 973 which included the contribution from the late Fraser Mackay's paintings.

ii. The 1 Cdo Day "Walking for Welfare"

Raised R8, 830 and with the shirts and the food kindly donated this was all profit.

iii. The AGM and 2 Cdo Day "Diamonds in the Rough"

The day netted a profit of R6, 922.

iv. 3 Cdo Day

The 3 Cdo Day was incredibly successful grossing R29, 841. Donations were R18, 059 and sundry raffles R5, 300. Food proceeds covered the cost.

v. Patrons Day

The Patrons Day held in September was very successful and netted a profit of R28, 610 for the day. One of the reasons that the day was so successful financially was donations of R11, 600 and 13,700 for food sales with no cost as the food was donated.

vi. Cape Town Fund Raising

The Cape Town branch had a very successful fund raiser in July and contributed R22,805 towards our welfare account.

vii. The 50/50 Raffle

Last year I reported the net amount collected for the day after deducting all the Prayer Meeting costs such as bar staff, cleaning staff and braai wood supplied. I have decided to report the gross amount under the 50/50 raffle. That's total takings less prize money. The other expenses will reflect as Monthly Prayer

Meeting Costs. The gross takings for the 50/50 raffle for the year based on this reporting format were R26, 590. That's total takings less prize money. Often the prize money was donated back to the fund by the winner.

viii. Reach Out to Rosa

The reach out to Rosa Day in October was very successful and R6, 350 was transferred into our account by various donors all of it was paid out to the beneficiary.

d. Auction Income.

Auction Income raised R27, 800 through three auctions. Two Gerry Cilliers knife auctions raised R20, 600 and the auction of a framed General Hickman operational plaque set raised R7, 200.

a. Interest Receivable.

We received R33, 849 of interest on our 7 Day Call Account.

3. Expenses

a. Welfare Payments

Welfare payments were R227, 936 and have gone to 17 very worthy beneficiaries who are all experiencing incredibly difficult financial and health issues.

b. Monthly Prayer Meeting Costs

These costs were previously netted against the 50/50 Raffle proceeds but I have now decided not to penalize Swartie's efforts. These costs are for bar staff, the helper Axol and wood/charcoal and amount to R12, 037

c. Fraudulent Bank Transactions

There were two further fraudulent transactions on our account this year but I picked them up immediately had the bank reversed so no losses incurred.

Rhodesian Light Infantry Regimental Association

Income and Expenditure Account

AS At : 30 December 2017

Ordinary Income / Expenditure

Income

Sale Of Merchandise	84 118.49
Welfare Donations	255 395.07
Regimental Day	20 085.00
Annual Subscriptions	66 401.00
Raffle 50/50 Proceeds	26 590.00
1 Cdo Day	8 830.00
2 Cdo Day	9 590.00
3 Cdo Day	31 035.05
Reach Out To Rosa	6 350.00
Cape Town Fund Raiser	22 805.00
Xmas Lotto	3 470.00
Auction Income	27 800.00
Patrons Day	25 300.00
Interest Receivable	33 849.61
Other Income	9 505.93
Total Income	631 125.15

Expenditure

Cost Of Sales Of Merchandise	(65 803.82)	GP 21.8 %
Welfare Payments	(227 935.74)	
Regimental Day	(17 112.23)	
2 Cdo Day	(5 600.00)	
3 Cdo Day	(4 000.00)	
Memorial Charlie Aust	(1 430.00)	
Reach Out To Rosa	(6 350.00)	
Monthly Prayer Meeting Costs	(12 036.86)	
Troopie Statue	(1 250.00)	
Bank Service Costs	(4 510.48)	
Postage	(396.00)	
Sundry Expenses	(2 806.07)	
Awards and Gifts	(2 755.00)	
	(351 986.20)	

Fund Surplus For the Year

279 138.95

4. Balance Sheet Details

Rhodesian Light Infantry Regimental Association		
Balance Sheet		
	AS At : 30 December 2017	YE 2016
ASSETS		
Current Assets		
Memorabilia Stock On Hand	156 228.41	128 909.70
Furniture	1 439.70	1 439.70
Debtors	3 927.00	
Total Other Current Assets	161 595.11	130 349.40
Cash at Bank and on Hand		
FNB 7 Day Notice Account	628 192.77	352 343.16
FNB Transaction Account	59 744.09	85 331.46
FNB Memorial Account	-	769.00
Total Cash at Bank and on Hand	687 936.86	438 443.62
Total Current Assets	849 531.97	568 793.02
Current Laibilities		
Other Current Liabilities		
Payments in advance	-	-
Prepaid Subs	4 800.00	3 200.00
Total Other Current Liabilities	4 800.00	3 200.00
NET CURRENT ASSETS	844 731.97	565 593.02
Capital and Reserves		
Surplus Available for Welfare	565 593.02	461 482.59
Fund Surplus For Year	279 138.95	104 110.43
Shareholder Funds	844 731.97	565 593.02

a. Cash and Investments

Our Cash position has improved by R249, 493 for the year and I have transferred money into the 7 day call account earning 6.9% and have left sufficient money in the transaction account to meet our immediate needs.

b. Inventories

The Inventories are valued at R156, 228 which is up by R27, 318 on last year. We definitely have a problem with old and slow moving stocks. There is an analysis at the end of this report.

c. Debtors

I have raised a debtor in the accounts for the RLIRA UK as stocks of R3, 927 were supplied at cost and the payment is outstanding.

d. Current Liabilities

We have no current liabilities apart from R4, 100 being prepaid subs. All suppliers have been paid and we have no creditors.

e. Tax Registration

I have had a ruling from the Tax Manager of Grant Thornton on the tax registration. Registration with the tax exemption unit is not a prerequisite. They are of the opinion that based on the content of our constitution we will not be required to register the association with the exemption unit.

5. Inventory Analysis.

a. Age Analysis

I have done an age analysis of the inventories that we had in stock at the start of the year and the sales of those inventories for the year to get an indication of how long these stocks would last with this rate of sale and we have four years of stock cover on average.

We need to prioritise the reduction of this stock as we are currently sitting on R100k of dormant stock items.

	2017 Opening Stock Holding	Cost Of Sales	Average Years Cover
Books	48 813.00	10 271.00	4
Clothing	29 333.70	10 581.30	2
DVD	870.00	-	>10
Flags/Posters	1 200.00	1 200.00	0
Gifts	35 120.00	6 440.00	5
Key rings etc	3 330.00	960.00	3
Once off	1 591.00	1 591.00	0
Scrolls	4 740.00	-	>10
Uniform Kit	3 402.00	1 044.00	3
Wine	510.00	51.00	9
Total	128 909.70	32 138.30	4

b. Gross Profit % Analysis

	Sales	Cost	GP %
Books	13 320.00	10 068.75	24%
Clothing	37 010.00	31 461.70	15%
Flags/Posters	2 080.00	1 200.00	42%
Gifts	9 540.00	7 531.03	21%
Key rings etc	1 735.00	960.00	45%
Lapel Pins	9 480.00	7 347.91	22%
Once off	2 080.00	1 591.00	24%
Uniform Kit	7 080.00	4 905.33	31%
Wine	60.00	51.00	15%
Total	82 385.00	65 116.72	21%

The overall GP % has been affected by the fact that 45% of the sales are for clothing which have a lower GP% of 15%. Also slow moving stock items have been sold at reduced prices.