



THE NYASALAND POLICE ASSOCIATION

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Email: nyasa.police@gmail.com

Website: www.nypol.com

GREETINGS

It is with pleasure that I extend to all our readers and members very best wishes from the Nyasaland Police Association for Christmas 2017 and for 2018. We wish you all good health and peace in the forthcoming year.

VALE

Regrettably I have to advise the death in September this year of **Dick Lancaster**, aged 86 years. After serving for some time in the Nigeria Police Dick joined the Nyasaland Police in 1960. He will be remembered perhaps most for his cheerful disposition. Also earlier in the year **Mick Thacker** lost his wife **Roe** following a long illness. In both instances I sent condolences from the Association to the families concerned.

GENERAL

I have, since my last newsletter, been in touch by various media with many members of the Association, too many to mention here. Most are, for their ages, in reasonable health but for all of us age is catching up. The average age of our members is now in excess of 85 years and I think that whilst we are all lucky still to be here, the relatively carefree lives we spent in the sun all those years ago must have stood us in good stead. Of some concern to me is that I can longer be in contact with Eric Bult who I know to be virtually permanently in hospital in Knysna in the Eastern Cape and Malcolm Llewelyn who is in a retirement home in Carmarthenshire. I know they are both still alive but seem no longer able to get them on the telephone to talk. We have three "old men", in their mid -nineties now, the two mentioned above and the third being Jon Dennison. I speak to Jon fairly regularly and am very pleased to report that he seems to be in very good health and still making trips to his beloved Orkneys.

DONATIONS.

I am not making any request for admin donations this year as our finances seem to be in a reasonably healthy state, due in no little part to the occasional cheques people send to me and to the money Terry Young makes for the Association with his raffle at the Reunion. However, voluntary unsolicited help is always welcome!

CONTACTS WITH SIMILAR ASSOCIATIONS

I am not infrequently contacted by members of other Colonial Police Associations, viz. the BSAP, the NRP, Hong Kong and recently the Kenya Police with a view to improving the links between us. Generally when I voice these overtures at Reunions there is little interest shown.

I do however look ahead to the days when these associations are virtually moribund with maybe only half a dozen or so surviving members in each. Those might still be interested in hearing about their ex-colleagues from other Forces, if not actually, either due to age or whatever, being able to meet them. I mentioned some years ago the concept of establishing what for want of a better name, might be called "The Confederation of Colonial Police Forces". This might be very basic and simply provide surviving members of various associations some idea of what is happening in other organisations and, perhaps, an opportunity to meet up occasionally at a dinner. I am aware that most of you don't want yet another dinner, but if our own organisation folds for whatever reason it might be nice still to be able to meet other ex-colonial coppers.

I am currently pursuing this idea with the Kenya Police, The Hong Kong Police and the BSAP with a view to making contact with the other organisations. I will keep you posted and do not envisage that this will place any financial burden on our members nor require any effort. It would simply be there should anybody wish to make use of it.

REUNION 2018

May I remind you again that next year's reunion is set for 12th July and you will be contacted by Ken Wilkinson at the end of January. Please make sure this date is in your diary.

Finally, very best wishes from myself and Elizabeth for this Christmas and 2018.

Christopher Bean