

## Editorial : December 2007

Dear Members,

First of all, I would like to thank all members for their on-going support with their calls, visits to the office at Tenterden, offers of articles and general encouragement.

The only Society event this year took place in Kent in November, it was advertised on the Society *News* pages and was successfully organized by member Bob Driver and ran for two days. The event finished with an excellent dinner with Ian Knight as the guest speaker.

The next Society event takes place in 2008 when the Society is hosting an Anglo Zulu War exhibition at Eastbourne's famous Redoubt Museum from the end of March until November. The museum is on the seafront of this famous resort just a half-mile from the pier, and parking is readily available. Of course, entrance will be free to members on production of their membership cards and full details will be posted to members in the New Year. Brief details can already been seen on the *News* page of the Society website at [www.anglozuluwar.com](http://www.anglozuluwar.com).

The Society has also been invited to take its exhibition to New York in 2010. This will be a major operation and I will keep members informed.

Of great importance is the ongoing success of Nicky Rattray's Fugitives' Drift Lodge. Bookings for the Lodge ensure it is full and it remains a Mecca for enthusiasts.

Finally, the 21<sup>st</sup> March next year will see the presentation of the Prince Buthelezi medals for Service to the Zulu People. The awards are sponsored by the Society and to launch the project, the awards will be divided into two groups; gold medals for lifetime service and silver medals for current activities. The silver award will then become an annual award with two medals being presented each year. The awards are the result of nominations to a panel overseen by David Charles in South Africa (David was formally deputy to David Rattray), and are authorized by Prince Buthelezi. The event will take place at the Royal Logistics Corps Headquarters at Deepcut in Surrey. Further information can be obtained by contacting me.

The new Journal has some really interesting articles and I remind members that they may contribute to the Journal if they so wish.

Finally, the new project about Lt. Charlie Harford, the beetle collector, is nearing completion. The book will be offered as a limited edition and it will contain details of the remarkable life of this interesting Anglo Zulu War participant. We were given suitcases of his notes, journals, papers and photographs to work through and it has been a monumental effort to finalize the project. Members will be notified of the publication date by post and members will have priority to purchase. It will be a stunning book with much that is new and previously unseen.

I wish you a happy and peaceful end to 2007 and I look forward to seeing you at Eastbourne in 2008.

With kind regards,

*Adrian Greaves*

Dr Adrian Greaves  
Editor.

1. The cover picture is a detail from a recently-discovered contemporary painting of Rorke's Drift in private ownership. The picture appears to have been completed about 1890 using as references the sketches produced by Chard at Queen Victoria's request. The inclusion of Chard (left) in the centre of the composition suggests it may have been painted for him or at his suggestion; the artist has not yet been identified. The detail includes Cpl. Schiess in the act which earned him the VC. A black-and-white print of part of the picture is currently available from PO Box 270 Chichester, West Sussex.

2. The article on Anthony Booth VC is by kind permission of Brian Best of the Victoria Cross Society.