

Editorial Journal 29.

This last six months has continued to be busy for the Society; we have had a steady flow of new members, including a number of undergraduates from around the world wishing to study the Anglo Zulu War. Indeed, one such article is included in this edition, by undergraduate Richard West, on the use of the Martini-Henry rifle.

This edition of the journal largely relates to the on-going controversy about the location and intention of the Zulu army before it attacked the British camp at Isandlwana. For many years historians held the belief that the Zulus were first discovered spread out along the Ngwebeni Valley five miles from Isandlwana, probably by Lt. Charlie Raw, as late as 11a.m. on the 22nd January. This is the traditional view which has not really been challenged until recent times. In 1990 Cassel published my book *Isandlwana* which queried some of these beliefs and over the last ten years I have researched the matter further, often accompanied on location by Ian Knight. All my research is from primary sources and I have referenced my quotations so that readers can follow up with their own research, if they wish.

Ian Knight holds a different view and so his theory is published alongside mine allowing members to draw their own conclusions.

Author Keith Smith touched on the subject in Journal 15 in his article *Isandlwana: The Discovery of the Zulu Army*. Members interested in an alternative view might like to re-read Keith's thoughts on the subject.

We were saddened to learn of the recent death of Professor Richard Holmes. It was known that he had not been well for some time. He was a good friend of the Society and he regularly gave his time to write reviews to my, and Ian's, books. Several years ago I was lucky enough to spend a couple of days in his company on the battlefields of Zululand and I greatly enjoyed his company and incisive observations. He will be sorely missed.

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